S0290-1-U

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

1987 ANNUAL REPORT

Alaska Court System

State of Alaska

ARTHUR H. SNOWDEN II
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

303 "K" STREET
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
99501

(907) 274-8611

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

The fiscal problems of the State of Alaska continue to impact the Alaska Court System. During this last year, we have attempted to address particular fiscal challenges within the confines of a maintenance-level budget. Compromises were necessary, and some areas (such as judicial and magistrate training) were radically curtailed in our efforts to cut costs.

During this last fiscal year, we have seen a leveling trend in caseloads in many areas. This trend is too new to analyze meaningfully at this point in time, but it may reflect the population decrease many parts of the state are experiencing, or it may be a product of reduction of law enforcement services in many areas.

We continue to work towards the construction of an expanded court facility in Anchorage. Construction should begin in the summer of 1988. This expanded facility should accommodate the reasonable growth needs of the judiciary, and will also allow for the housing of a number of justice-related agencies within one complex. This consolidation will allow related agencies to interact with one another more efficiently, and will eliminate expenditures by several agencies for rental space.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chief Justice Rabinowitz for his guidance and support over the last three years. On October 1, 1987, Chief Justice Rabinowitz' term expired, and Justice Warren Matthews was elected to serve as the new chief justice. During his most recent term as chief justice, Justice Rabinowitz continued to demonstrate an unflagging commitment to the improvement of justice systems in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Arthur H. Snowden, II

Arthur H. Snowden, II
Administrative Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

PROFILE OF THE ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

Alaska Court System Fact Sheet..... 3

Alaska Court System Organization..... 4

Introduction..... 5

The Supreme Court..... 6

The Court of Appeals..... 9

The Superior Court..... 10

The District Court..... 16

Statewide Court Administration..... 21

The Judicial Appointment Process..... 21

Judicial Retention Elections..... 22

Judicial Education..... 23

Budget and Fiscal Affairs..... 24

Alaska Judicial Council..... 26

Commission on Judicial Conduct..... 26

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE APPELLATE COURTS

Supreme Court..... 29

Explanation of Statistical Categories..... 29

Filings..... 29

Dispositions..... 31

Pending Caseload..... 32

Time Required for Disposition of Cases..... 33

Petitions for Hearing..... 34

Page

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE APPELLATE COURTS - continued

Court of Appeals 35

Explanation of Statistical Categories 35

Filings 35

Dispositions 36

Pending Caseload 38

Time Required for Disposition of Cases 39

Footnotes 40

Tables:

Table I: Supreme Court - Recapitulation 41

Table II: Supreme Court - Dispositions 42

Table III: Supreme Court - Historical 43

Table IV: Supreme Court - Reasons for Cases Pending June 30, 1987 44

Table V: Supreme Court - Length of Time to Disposition 45

Table VI: Alaska Supreme Court and Court of Appeals - Backlog Months 46

Table VII: Court of Appeals - Recapitulation 47

Table VIII: Court of Appeals - Dispositions 48

Table IX: Court of Appeals - Historical 49

Table X: Court of Appeals - Reasons for Cases Pending June 30, 1987 50

Table XI: Court of Appeals - Length of Time to Disposition 51

YEAR IN REVIEW

Anchorage Courthouse Expansion 55

Security Issues 55

Page

YEAR IN REVIEW - continued

Legislation..... 56

The Trial Courts..... 57

First Judicial District..... 57

Second Judicial District..... 57

Third Judicial District..... 58

Fourth Judicial District..... 58

Court Administration..... 59

Court Rules..... 59

Fines Due Project..... 59

Microfilming Project..... 59

Audio Tape Archives..... 60

Records Retention Schedule..... 60

Forms Committee..... 60

Law Libraries..... 60

Affirmative Action..... 61

Retirements..... 62

Trial Courts Statistical Summary - FY 87..... 64

Superior Court..... 66

District Court..... 72

STATISTICS

Foreword..... S-i

Index to Statistical Tables..... S-iii

Supreme Court..... S-3

Page

STATISTICS - continued

Court of Appeals..... S-9

Statewide Trial Court..... S-15

Superior Court..... S-25

District Court (Higher Volume)..... S-51

District Court (Lower Volume)..... S-75

PROFILE OF THE ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Alaska Court System Fact Sheet	3
Alaska Court System Organization	4
Introduction	5
The Supreme Court	6
The Court of Appeals	9
The Superior Court	10
The District Court	16
Statewide Court Administration	21
The Judicial Appointment Process	21
Judicial Retention Elections	22
Judicial Education	23
Budget and Fiscal Affairs	24
Alaska Judicial Council	26
Commission on Judicial Conduct	26

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM FACT SHEET

(Information as of June 30, 1987)

FISCAL YEAR: July 1 - June 30

Geographical area served: 566,000 square miles

Number of Judges:
- 5 supreme court justices
- 3 court of appeals judges
- 29 superior court judges
- 17 district court judges

Number of court locations:
- 15 combined superior and district court locations
- 44 district courts only (judge and/or magistrate)

Total number of permanent full-time court employees: 603

6 largest trial courts (by number of permanent full-time employees):

Anchorage:	209
Fairbanks:	84
Juneau:	23
Ketchikan:	17
Kenai:	15
Palmer:	15

BUDGET
FY 1987 court system annual budget: $39,244,300
Percentage decrease over FY 1986 annual budget: 0.9%
Percentage of FY 1987 annual state general fund budget: 1.7%

CASELOAD

Number of Cases **Filed** and **Decided** in FY 1987

Court	#of Cases FILED	% Change From FY 86	#of Cases DECIDED	% Change from FY 86
Supreme Court	587	−7%	522	−19%
Appeals Court	523	−11%	483	−30%
Superior Court	19,605	−7%	18,505	−1%
District Court	136,988	-	127,989	+1%

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM ORGANIZATION

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

The supreme court is the appellate court of final authority in Alaska. It consists of a panel of five justices.

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

The court of appeals hears appeals in criminal and quasi-criminal cases (such as juvenile delinquency cases). It consists of a panel of three judges.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

The supreme court is charged with the responsibility of administering the statewide system. The supreme court delegates most of the administrative matters to the administrative director and his staff.

SUPERIOR COURT

The superior court is the trial court of general jurisdiction. It also has appellate jurisdiction over district court appeals. There are 29 superior court judgeships statewide.

DISTRICT COURT

The district court has limited civil and criminal jurisdiction. The district court consists of 17 district court judgeships and 54 magistrates.

Alaska has a unified, centrally administered, and totally state funded judicial system. Municipal governments do not maintain a separate court system.

Profile of the Alaska Court System

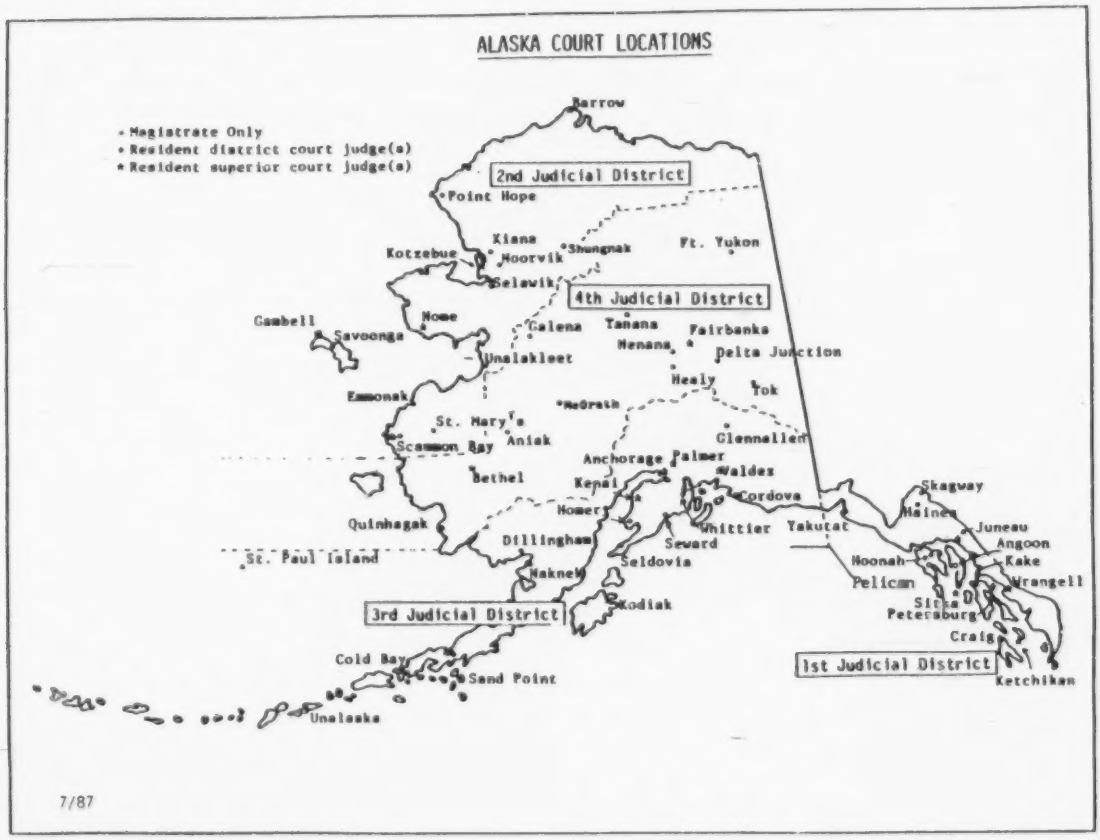
JULY 1, 1986 - JUNE 30, 1987
Fiscal Year 1987

Introduction

There are four levels of courts in the Alaska Court System, each with different powers, duties and responsibilities. Alaska has no city, county or borough courts.

The chief justice of the Alaska Supreme Court is the administrative head of the Alaska Court System. An administrative director is appointed by the chief justice with concurrence of the supreme court. The administrative director supervises the administration of all courts in the state.

The four levels of courts in the Alaska Court System are the supreme court, the court of appeals, the superior court and the district court. The supreme court and the superior court were established in the Alaska Constitution. The district court was established by state statute in 1959 and the court of appeals was established



by state statute in 1980. Jurisdiction and other areas of the judicial responsibility for each level of court are set out in Title 22 of the Alaska Statutes.

Rules governing the administration of all courts as well as the rules of practice and procedure for civil and criminal cases are promulgated by the supreme court.

The Supreme Court

The Alaska Supreme Court is the highest level of state court in Alaska. The supreme court is comprised of the chief justice and four associate justices.

The five justices, by majority vote, select one of their members to be the chief justice. The chief justice holds that office for three years and may not serve consecutive terms.

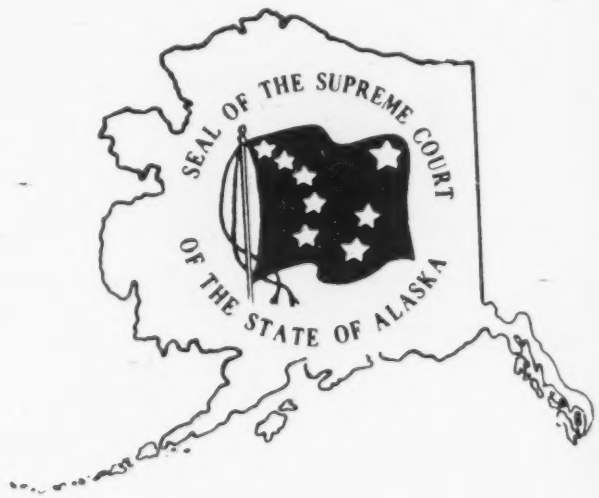
During FY 1987,[1] the Honorable Jay A. Rabinowitz continued as chief justice of the Alaska Supreme Court. His term began October 1, 1984; it expired on September 30, 1987. Chief Justice Rabinowitz is the senior member of the current court, having served for 22 years. He resides in Fairbanks.

Justice Edmond W. Burke has served on the court for 13 years. He resides in Anchorage.

Justice Warren W. Matthews, who resides in Anchorage, has served on the supreme court for 11 years. On September 10, 1987, Justice Matthews was elected to the chief justice position effective October 1, 1987.

Justice Allen T. Compton has been a member of the supreme court for seven years. When he was appointed to the supreme court in 1980, he resided in Juneau. He moved to Anchorage in September 1983.

Justice Daniel A. Moore, Jr. has been a member of the supreme court for four years. He resides in Anchorage.



[1] The court system's fiscal year is July 1 - June 30. FY 87 is July 1, 1986 - June 30, 1987.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Justice Allen Compton, Justice Daniel Moore, Justice Edmond Burke, Chief Justice Jay Rabinowitz and Justice Warren Matthews

The supreme court hears cases on appeal from every location in the state. An appeal may be taken to the supreme court from a final judgment (that is, a judgment which substantially ends the court case) entered by the superior court in any civil action or proceeding. In criminal actions (and in certain quasi-criminal matters such as juvenile delinquency cases), the supreme court has the discretion to accept or deny litigants' requests that it review decisions made by the court of appeals. The supreme court may also take jurisdiction of a case pending before the court of appeals if the court of appeals certifies that the case involves a significant question of constitutional law or an issue of substantial public interest.

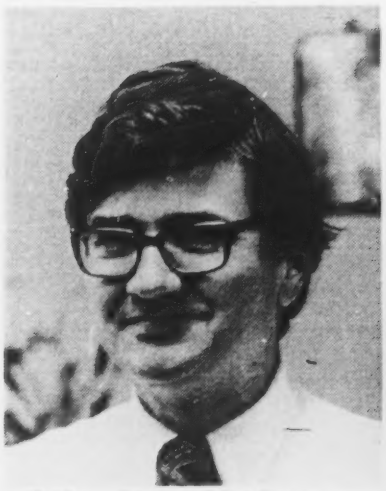
The Alaska Constitution grants the supreme court the power to establish rules governing the administration of all courts in the state and rules governing practice and procedure in civil and criminal cases. The supreme court has also adopted other rules such as rules governing the practice of law in the

State of Alaska, rules governing practice and procedure in children's matters, rules of probate procedure and rules of appellate procedure. The Alaska Legislature may change rules governing practice and procedure by an act expressing its intent to do so which is passed by a two-thirds majority of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The supreme court meets weekly to confer on pending judicial and administrative matters. Arguments are heard by the five justices as a panel throughout the year on a monthly basis in Anchorage and Fairbanks, quarterly in Juneau and occasionally in other court locations. The supreme court will generally hear argument in the city where the case was heard by the trial court. Following argument or submission of the case on the basis of briefs without argument, the supreme court will decide the case, write an opinion and initiate its publication in the Pacific Reporter, 2d series, the regional reporter for the northwestern states. The State of Alaska has designated West Publishing Company's Alaska Reporter as its official reporter.

The clerk's office of the appellate courts, which includes the supreme court and the court of appeals, is located in Anchorage. David Lampen was appointed clerk of the appellate courts in February 1984. The clerk is required to be an attorney, preferably with some appellate experience. Responsibilities of the clerk include monitoring the caseflow through the supreme court and the court of appeals as well as making recommendations for improvements in appellate procedure. The clerk is also responsible for all case filing and calendaring, publishing opinions and related tasks. Deputy clerks are located in Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks.

The Court of Appeals



Judge James Singleton

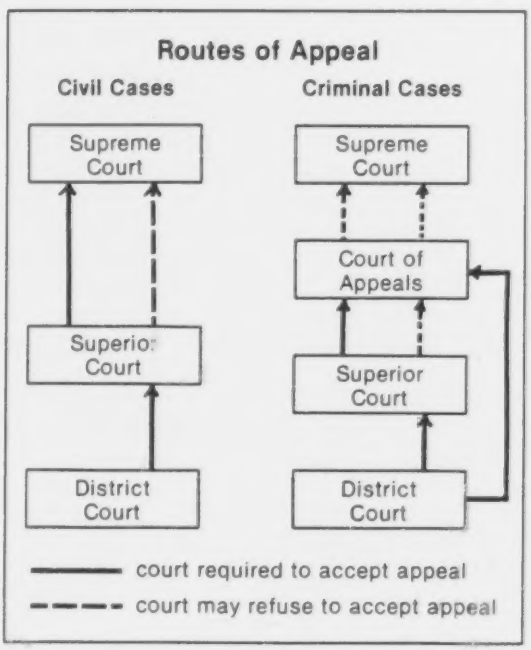
Chief Judge Alex Bryner

Judge Robert Coats

The court of appeals is a three-judge panel created by the Alaska Legislature in 1980. The three judges originally selected in 1980 remain on the court. They all reside in Anchorage where the court of appeals regularly meets. The court of appeals travels to Fairbanks as caseload demands.

The court of appeals has the authority to hear appeals from judgments in criminal cases and certain other quasi-criminal cases in which a minor is accused of committing a crime (juvenile delinquency cases), cases in which prisoners are challenging the legality of their confinement (habeas corpus matters), and cases involving probation and parole decisions.

Criminal appeals from the district court can be taken to the superior court or to the court of appeals, at the option of the defendant. A defendant who appeals from district court to superior court can ask the court of appeals to review the resulting decision of the superior court, but the court of appeals may, in its discretion, refuse to hear the appeal.



The Superior Court

The superior court is the trial court of general jurisdiction with original jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters.

SUPERIOR COURT JURISDICTION

The superior court:

- serves as an APPELLATE COURT for appeals from the district court
- hears cases involving CHILDREN who have committed crimes or who are abused or neglected
- hears cases involving the PROPERTY OF DECEASED OR INCOMPETENT PERSONS
- hears cases involving the INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT of persons to institutions for the mentally ill
- handles DOMESTIC RELATIONS matters

At the end of FY 87, there were 29 superior court judges serving the State of Alaska. During this fiscal year there was only one change on the superior court bench. On April 28, 1987, Governor Steve Cowper appointed Richard D. Savell to the Fairbanks judgeship vacated by the retirement of Judge Gerald Van Hoomissen. Judge Van Hoomissen, who retired on Jan. 1, 1987, had served on the bench for 16 years.

The State of Alaska is divided into four judicial districts. The boundaries of the districts are defined by state statute. The judicial districts define the boundaries for judicial retention elections at which voters indicate their approval or rejection of judges and justices.

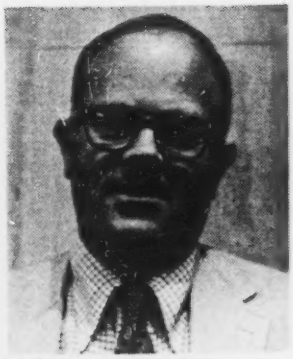
In January of each year, the chief justice of the supreme court desig-

nates a superior court judge from each of Alaska's four judicial districts to serve as presiding judge for a term of one calendar year. The presiding judge, in addition to regular judicial duties, is responsible for the administration of the trial courts within the district, including assignment of cases, supervision of court personnel, efficient handling of court business and appointment of magistrates. In January 1987, Judges Thomas E. Schulz (first judicial district), Charles Tunley (second judicial district), Douglas Serdahely (third judicial district) and Jay Hodges (fourth judicial district) were reappointed as presiding judges for their respective districts.

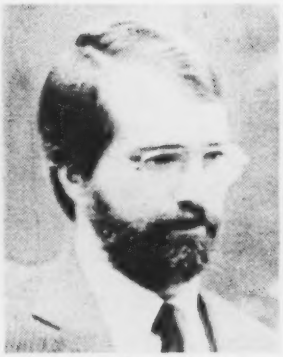
Superior Court Judges of the First Judicial District

Presiding Judge
Thomas E. Schulz
Appointed 1974
Ketchikan

Walter Carpeneti
Appointed 1981
Juneau



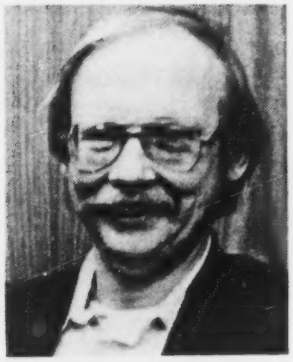
Duane Craske
Appointed 1976
Sitka



Thomas M. Jahnke
Appointed 1985
Wrangell/Petersburg

Rodger Pegues
Appointed 1981
Juneau

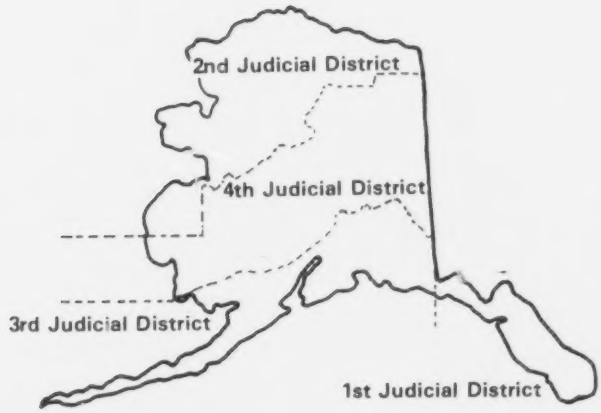
Superior Court Judges of the Second Judicial District



Presiding Judge
Charles R. Tunley
Appointed 1980
Nome

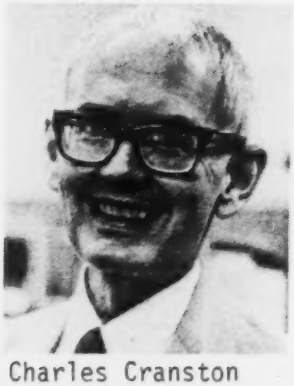
Michael Jeffery
Appointed 1982
Barrow

Paul Jones
Appointed 1980
Kotzebue



Superior Court Judges of the Third Judicial District

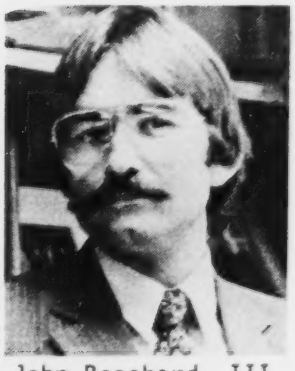
Presiding Judge
Douglas Serdahely
Appointed 1980
Anchorage



Charles Cranston
Appointed 1981
Kenai

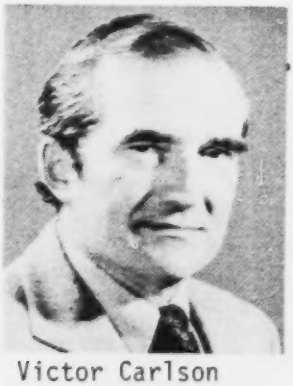
Roy Madsen
Appointed 1975
Kodiak

Beverly Cutler
Appointed 1982
Palmer

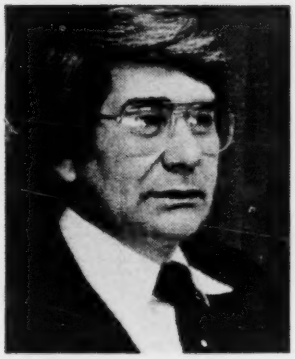


John Bosshard, III
Appointed 1984
Valdez

S. J. Buckalew, Jr.
Appointed 1973
Anchorage



Victor Carlson
Appointed 1970
Anchorage



Rene J. Gonzalez
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Karen Hunt
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Karl Johnstone
Appointed 1979
Anchorage

Joan M. Katz
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Peter A. Michalski
Appointed 1985
Anchorage

J. Justin Ripley
Appointed 1975
Anchorage

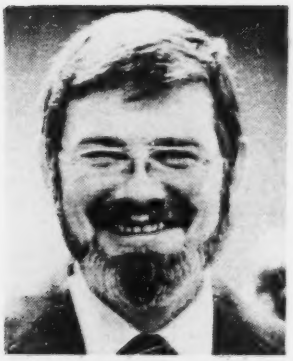
Mark Rowland
Appointed 1977
Anchorage

Brian Shortell
Appointed 1980
Anchorage

Milton Souter
Appointed 1978
Anchorage

Superior Court Judges of the
Fourth Judicial District

Presiding Judge
Jay Hodges
Appointed 1976
Fairbanks



James Blair
Appointed 1975
Fairbanks

Mary E. Greene
Appointed 1985
Fairbanks

Richard D. Savell
Appointed 1987
Fairbanks

Gail Roy Fraties
Appointed 1986
Bethel

The District Court

The Alaska Constitution provides that the legislature shall establish such lower courts as may be necessary. In 1959, the legislature created a district court for each judicial district and granted to the supreme court the power to increase or decrease the number of district court judges within each judicial district. As of June 30, 1987, there were 17 district court judges in Alaska.

DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION

A district court judge may:

- hear STATE MISDEMEANORS and violations of CITY AND BOROUGH ORDINANCES
- issue SUMMONSES, ARREST WARRANTS and SEARCH WARRANTS
- hear first appearances and PRELIMINARY HEARINGS in felony cases
- issue ABSENTEE BALLOTS and record VITAL STATISTICS (in some areas of the state)
- serve as CORONER, hold inquests and act as temporary caretaker of property of deceased persons
- hear CIVIL CASES valued up to $25,000 (jurisdiction increased to $35,000 as of September 3, 1987)
- hear SMALL CLAIMS cases ($5,000 maximum)
- handle cases involving CHILDREN on an emergency basis
- hear DOMESTIC VIOLENCE cases

Legislation that became effective September 3, 1987, increased the civil jurisdiction of the district court to $35,000.

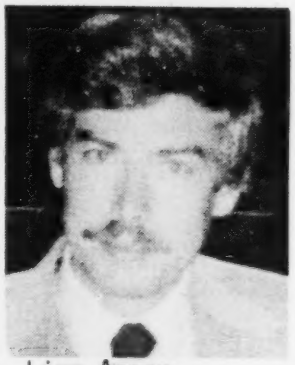
Anchorage District Court Judge Michael White resigned on April 1, 1987. Judge White had been appointed to the bench in December 1984.

In the smaller, generally rural areas of the state, where the services of a full-time district court judge are not required, magistrates preside over certain district court matters. Magistrates also serve in most metropolitan areas to handle routine matters and ease the workload of the district court. As of June 30, 1987, there were 36 court locations in Alaska in which a magistrate was the highest ranking judicial officer.

A magistrate is not required to be a lawyer. The magistrate is a judicial officer of the district court whose authority is more limited than the authority of a district court judge.

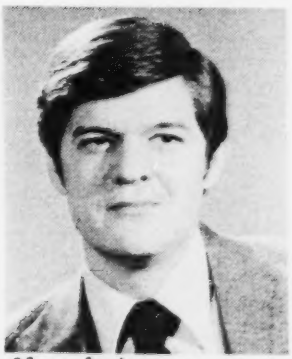
District Court Judges of the First Judicial District

George Gucker
Appointed 1983
Ketchikan



Linn Asper
Appointed 1984
Juneau

District Court Judges of the Third Judicial District



Glen Anderson
Appointed 1978
Anchorage

Elaine Andrews
Appointed 1981
Anchorage

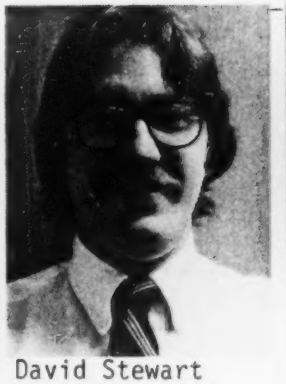
Martha Beckwith
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Natalie Finn
Appointed 1983
Anchorage

William Fuld
Appointed 1983
Anchorage

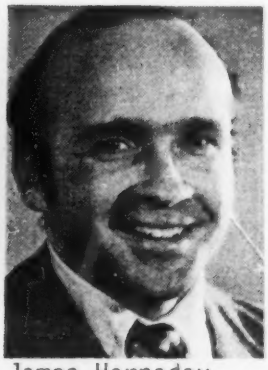
John Mason
Appointed 1970
Anchorage

Ralph Stemp
Appointed 1984
Anchorage



David Stewart
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Michael White
Appointed 1984
Anchorage



James Hornaday
Appointed 1976
Homer

District Court Judges of the Fourth Judicial District

Hugh Connelly
Appointed 1960
Fairbanks

H. E. Crutchfield
Appointed 1980
Fairbanks

Jane Kauvar
Appointed 1981
Fairbanks

Christopher Zimmerman
Appointed 1985
Fairbanks

MAGISTRATE JURISDICTION

In civil cases, a magistrate may:

- hear SMALL CLAIMS cases ($5,000 maximum)
- hear FORMAL CIVIL cases ($5,000 maximum)
- issue SUMMONSES, writs of HABEAS CORPUS (challenges to the legality of a person's confinement)
- issue MARRIAGE LICENSES and PERFORM MARRIAGES
- perform CORONER duties, including inquests and presumptive death hearings
- perform NOTARY PUBLIC functions, record VITAL STATISTICS (births, deaths and marriages) and issue ABSENTEE BALLOTS
- handle cases involving CHILDREN on an emergency basis
- hear DOMESTIC VIOLENCE cases
- act as a hearing officer to review an ADMINISTRATIVE REVOCATION of a driver's license

In criminal matters, a magistrate may:

- enter a judgment of conviction if a defendant pleads guilty or no contest to any STATE MISDEMEANOR
- hold TRIALS and enter judgments in STATE MISDEMEANORS if the defendant agrees in writing to be tried by a magistrate
- hear trials of MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE violations, STATE TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS and violations under TITLE 11 of the Alaska Statutes
- preside over PRELIMINARY HEARINGS in felony cases
- issue ARREST WARRANTS, SUMMONSES and SEARCH WARRANTS
- conduct EXTRADITION (fugitive from justice) proceedings

STATEWIDE MAGISTRATE TRAINING CONFERENCE
Anchorage, October 20-22, 1986

First Row (left to right): Alice Lathrop, Tok; Tracy Blais, Delta Junction; Dorothy Kameroff, Emmonak; John Smith, Quinhagak; Janet Henry, Shungnak; Anita Griest, Kiana; George Rukovishnikoff, Jr., St. Paul Island; Geoffrey Comfort, Dillingham; Dan Branch, Aniak; Bradley Gater, Nome; Kristen Carlisle, First District Area Court Administrator; Lowell Anagick, Sr., Unalakleet; Skip Slater, Fairbanks.

Second Row (left to right): Jean Worley, Skagway; John Howard, Sr., Angoon; Rick Siangco, Juneau; Reginald Gates, Barrow; Steven Lisbourne, Sr., Pt. Hope; Jim Jackson, Galena; Linda Hartshorn, Wrangell; Denice Beans, St. Marys; Maxine Savland, Hoonah; Abner Gologergen, Savoonga.

Third Row (left to right): Barbara Macfarlane, Healy/Nenana; Susan Thomsen, Ketchikan; Kathleen Stewart, Petersburg; Kimberly Daniels, Pelican; Marge Lori, Field Auditor; Elizabeth Dennis, Craig; Christine Kashevarof, Seldovia; Dennis Nelson, Kodiak; Joseph O'Connell, Palmer; Susan Weltz, Cordova; Brigitte McBride, Kenai; Susan Paterson, Fairbanks Clerk of Court; Charles "Mac" Gibson, Fourth District Area Court Administrator.

Fourth Row (left to right): Judge Duane R. Craske, Sitka; George Dozier, Jr., Unalaska; Carl Heinmiller, Haines; Paul Verhagen, Tanana; James Farr, Kotzebue; Terrence Gallagher, Yakutat; William Cheney, Kake; Craig McMahon, Bethel; Mike Hall, Second District Area Court Administrator; Judge David Stewart, Anchorage; Judge Glen Anderson, Anchorage; Sheldon Sprecker, Glennallen; Jim Parker, Director of Magistrate Services.

Statewide Court Administration

Statewide court administration is the responsibility of the chief justice of the supreme court. By court rule, this responsibility is delegated to the administrative director of the courts subject to general guidelines set forth by the supreme court.

The Judicial Appointment Process

The governor of the State of Alaska appoints supreme court justices and judges of the court of appeals, superior court and district court from lists of qualified candidates submitted to the governor by the Alaska Judicial Council. The governor is given 45 days from receipt of nominations to make these appointments.

To be eligible for appointment to the supreme court, a person must be a citizen of the United States and a resident of Alaska for five years prior to appointment. A justice must be licensed to practice law in Alaska at the time of appointment and must have engaged in the active practice of law for eight years.

A court of appeals judge must be a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State of Alaska for five years immediately preceding appointment, have been engaged for not less than eight years immediately preceding appointment in the active practice of law, and at the time of appointment be licensed to practice law in the State of Alaska.

The qualifications of a judge of the superior court are the same as for a supreme court justice, except that only five years of active practice are necessary.

A district court judge must be 21 years of age, a citizen of the United States, a resident of the state for at least five years, and (1) be licensed to practice law in Alaska and have engaged in active practice of law for not less than three years immediately preceding appointment, or (2) have served for at least seven years as a magistrate in the state and have graduated from an accredited law school.

Magistrates are not appointed by the governor nor are their qualifications reviewed by the Alaska Judicial Council. Their appointments are made for an indefinite period by the presiding judge of the judicial district in which they will serve. Each magistrate serves at the pleasure of the presiding judge.

A magistrate does not have to be a lawyer. A magistrate must be 21 years of age, a United States citizen, and a citizen of Alaska for six months prior to appointment.

Judicial Retention Elections

Each supreme court justice and each court of appeals judge is subject to approval or rejection by a majority of voters statewide on a nonpartisan ballot at the first general election held more than three years after appointment. Thereafter, each justice must participate in a retention election every ten years; each court of appeals judge must participate every eight years.

Each superior court judge is subject to approval or rejection by the voters of the judicial district at the first general election held more than three years after the judge's appointment. Thereafter, the judge is subject to approval or rejection every sixth year. Each district court judge must also run in a retention election in his or her judicial district, at the first general election held more than one year after appointment and in a like manner every fourth year thereafter.

In November 1986, the following judges and justices participated in retention elections:

SUPREME COURT

Justice Daniel A. Moore

SUPERIOR COURT

First District

Judge Duane K. Craske

Second District

Judge Michael I. Jeffery

Third District

Judge Beverly W. Cutler
Judge Mark C. Rowland

Fourth District

Judge Jay Hodges
Judge Gerald Van Hoomissen

DISTRICT COURT

First District

Judge Linn Asper

Third District

Judge Elaine M. Andrews
Judge Martha Beckwith
Judge James C. Hornaday
Judge Ralph Stemp
Judge David C. Stewart
Judge Michael N. White

Fourth District

Judge Hugh H. Connelly
Judge H. Ed Crutchfield
Judge Jane Kauvar
Judge Christopher Zimmerman

All these members of the judiciary were retained by the voters.

State laws which require judges to participate in retention elections do not apply to magistrates.

Judicial Education

Judicial training in Alaska takes several different forms. There is a statewide judicial conference each year for justices and judges which includes training in specific areas of court procedures or operations. Judges are eligible for attendance at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. All magistrates attend at least one magistrate training conference per year; training judges, deputy training judges and staff of the administrative office regularly visit with magistrates in their own court locations for on-site training. The administrative office prepares written educational materials that are distributed to magistrates.

Three in-state magistrate training conferences were held in fiscal year 1987: a training conference of all Alaska magistrates held in Anchorage from October 20 to October 22, 1986; a training conference for First Judicial District deputy magistrates held June 16-18 in Wrangell; and a conference for Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta area magistrates held June 22-24 in Bethel. In June of 1987, a conference of all Alaska coroner/public administrators was held in Anchorage. Also, during FY 87, five magistrates received on-site training at their respective locations from administrative staff.

Budget and Fiscal Affairs

The Alaska Legislature annually appropriates from the state general fund all funds for the operation of the Alaska Court System. A statewide budget for all trial courts, the appellate courts and court administration is prepared centrally by the administrative office.

The budget process for the court system begins with the submission of budget requests by the trial and appellate courts to the administrative director. The requests are reviewed with each district and the appellate courts and are modified to fit into the overall court budget plan. The court's budget request is reviewed and approved by the supreme court.

Following legislative review and appropriation, funds are then allocated to the various judicial districts, the appellate courts and the administrative office. The appropriation covers all costs of the judicial branch in the state including judges' salaries, facilities rent, clerks' offices and administrative support.

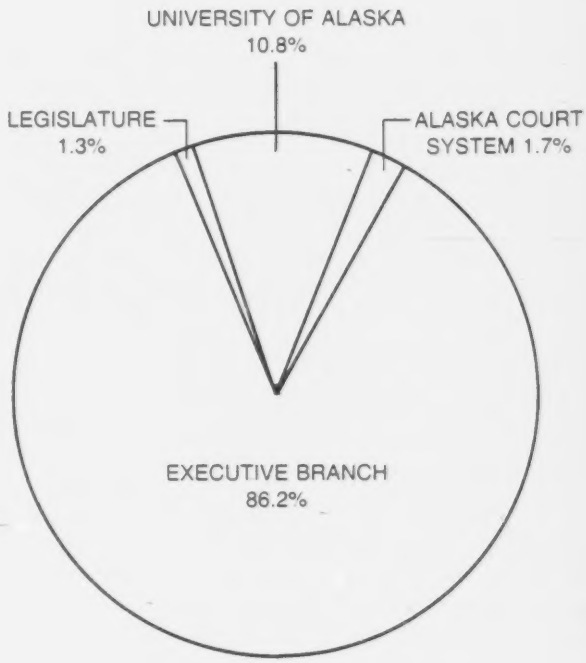
Reflecting the downturn in state revenues, the court's FY 87 operating budget decreased approximately 1% from FY 86. In previous fiscal years, the court experienced an average growth rate of approximately 4%. In light of the reduced budget and depressed economic conditions, operating expenditures were reduced 8% in comparison to the previous year. The reduction was accomplished through a number of cost-cutting measures. The statewide hiring freeze and curtailment of non-judicial travel accounted for the majority of the reduction.

The court system operating budget accounts for approximately 1.7% of the total state operating budget. The actual expenditures incurred by the court system during fiscal year 1985 were $38,249,800; fiscal year 1986, $39,003,900; and fiscal year 1987, $35,851,900.

Personnel costs, at the 1987 level of $28,058,100, represent approximately 78% of the total operating budget.

STATE OF ALASKA
FISCAL YEAR 1987

PERCENTAGE OF OPERATING BUDGET



Total Operating Budget = 2,363.0 Million

STATEWIDE BUDGET FOR ALASKA COURT SYSTEM - FISCAL YEAR 1987

Operating Budget Unit	FY 87 Expenditures	Full-Time Positions		
		Judges/ Justices	Magistrates	Support Personnel
Appellate Courts	$ 3,214,800	8		44
Trial Courts:				
1st District	4,010,100	7	11	46
2nd District	2,920,500	3	16	17
3rd District	14,932,000	28	15	233
4th District	6,367,400	9	15	84
Administration	4,407,100			67
Total	$35,851,900	55	57	491

Expenses for rent, maintenance and insurance on court facilities in 59 locations across the state amounted to $2,156,700. Jury fees amounted to $1,399,100. Due to the distances between courts, approximately $502,700 was spent for travel, including judicial, administrative, conference and juror travel and living expenses. Other operating expenses of the court, including commodities, phones, postage, and equipment rental, make up approximately $3,735,300 of the annual expense of the court.

Revenues generated by the courts are deposited in the state general fund, except those originating from municipal ordinance violations, which are disbursed to the respective municipalities.

The court system annually collects over $5,600,000 in revenues. In fiscal year 1987, the revenue generated from fines and forfeitures amounted to $3,518,700; civil case filing fees ($70.00 superior court, $35.00 district court, $15.00 small claims) $1,239,900; clerical fees (notary, transcript, copies) and other miscellaneous receipts, $549,000; and cost recoveries and interest on investments, $302,400.

Alaska Judicial Council

The Alaska Judicial Council, which operates independently of the court system, was created by the state constitution to perform two primary functions: (1) to solicit, screen and nominate applicants for gubernatorial appointments to vacant judgeship positions and (2) to conduct studies for the improvement in the administration of justice and make recommendations to the legislature and the supreme court. The council is comprised of the chief justice, who serves as chair and ex officio member; three attorney members appointed by the Board of Governors of the Bar Association; and three non-attorney members appointed by the governor and subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. These six members serve for six-year terms.

The judicial council, which must report to the legislature and the supreme court at least once every two years, is assisted by a full-time executive director and support staff. For more information regarding the functions of the Alaska Judicial Council, call (907) 279-2526.

Commission on Judicial Conduct

The Commission on Judicial Conduct, created by the state constitution, operates independently of the court system.

The commission consists of nine members: three state court judges or justices; three lawyers with at least ten years experience in the practice of law in Alaska; and three persons who are not lawyers or judges. The commission investigates complaints against state judges and justices. The commission has the power to reprimand a justice or judge either publicly or privately. The commission may also refer matters to the supreme court with a recommendation that a judge be suspended, removed or retired from office or publicly or privately censured by the supreme court.

In calendar year 1986, the commission received 66 complaints; 19 complaints were pending at the end of 1986. The commission offices were closed to the receipt of complaints for four months due to the exhaustion of budgeted funds. The commission issued one private reprimand during 1986.

For more information regarding the Commission on Judicial Conduct, call (907) 264-0528.

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE APPELLATE COURTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1987

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
Supreme Court		29
Explanation of Statistical Categories		29
Filings		29
Dispositions		31
Pending Caseload		32
Time Required for Disposition of Cases		33
Petitions for Hearing		34
Court of Appeals		35
Explanation of Statistical Categories		35
Filings		35
Dispositions		36
Pending Caseload		38
Time Required for Disposition of Cases		39
Footnotes		40
Tables:		
Table I:	Supreme Court - Recapitulation	41
Table II:	Supreme Court - Dispositions	42
Table III:	Supreme Court - Historical	43
Table IV:	Supreme Court - Reasons for Cases Pending June 30, 1987	44
Table V:	Supreme Court - Length of Time to Disposition	45
Table VI:	Alaska Supreme Court and Court of Appeals - Backlog Months	46
Table VII:	Court of Appeals - Recapitulation	47
Table VIII:	Court of Appeals - Dispositions	48
Table IX:	Court of Appeals - Historical	49
Table X:	Court of Appeals - Reasons for Cases Pending June 30, 1987	50
Table XI:	Court of Appeals - Length of Time to Disposition	51

Report on The Activity of The Appellate Courts for Fiscal Year 1987

SUPREME COURT

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICAL CATEGORIES

The supreme court's caseload is divided into four statistical categories:

Civil Appeals - A party may appeal as of right a final judgment in a civil case to the supreme court.

Criminal Appeals - An aggrieved party who is not satisfied with a decision in the court of appeals does not have an automatic right to have the supreme court consider the matter. Rather, the party must file a petition for hearing, seeking to have the supreme court exercise its discretion and agree to hear the case. A petition for hearing may be filed in three types of cases: (a) review of a decision by the court of appeals on a final appeal of the merits of a conviction or of the sentence imposed on a criminal defendant; (b) review of a ruling by the court of appeals on a petition for review of an interlocutory order of the trial court; and (c) review of a ruling by the court of appeals in a criminal appeal of a district court judgment to the superior court and then by petition for hearing to the court of appeals. A petition for hearing to the supreme court that arises in any of these contexts and raises either criminal merit or sentence issues will be statistically included in the heading "criminal appeals."

Petition for Review - A party may petition the supreme court to review an interlocutory decision of the trial court while the case is still proceeding in the lower court. As with a petition for hearing, there is no automatic right of appeal and the supreme court must exercise its discretionary power and agree to hear the matter. This type of application is limited to civil cases.[1]

Original Applications - There are a number of types of proceedings that do not involve appellate review of a specific ruling by a lower court. Instead, the application for relief is initially filed with the supreme court. These proceedings include bar admission and attorney discipline matters, and cases referred to the supreme court under Appellate Rule 407 in which a federal court has certified that questions of state law are present for which there is no controlling precedent in the decisions of the state supreme court.

FILINGS
(Tables I & III)

A total of 587 new cases were filed, reinstated or transferred to the supreme court during FY 87.[2] This represents a 7% decrease from FY 86, an 11% increase from FY 85,[3] and an 8% increase from FY 84.[3]

The number of civil appeals filed in FY 86 had declined after several years of steady increases. In FY 87 filings of civil appeals increased

---

1, 2 & 3 See page 40 for all footnote references.

to 356 new cases, a 21% increase from the 295 civil appeals filed in FY 86 and a 14% increase from the 311 civil filings in FY 85. The FY 87 total is the highest number of civil appeals filed in any year since 1976 when comparable statistics began being collected.

A decline in the number of discretionary applications filed led to an overall decrease in the number of new filings for FY 87. The number of petitions for hearing and petitions for review filed in FY 86 (292 total filings) had jumped sharply from the filing levels of prior years (194 in FY 85, 221 in FY 84, and 219 in FY 83). In FY 87 the total dropped to 219 filings, a figure closer to the totals for FY 83 to FY 85. One hundred and seven new petitions for hearing were filed in FY 87, a 38% decrease from FY 86, but a 5% increase from FY 85 and a 16% increase from FY 84. The number of petitions for review filed in FY 87 also decreased from the FY 86 total and returned to the levels of prior years. The 112 petitions for review filed in FY 87 was a 20% decrease from FY 86, a 22% increase from FY 85, and a 13% decrease from FY 84.

The number of original applications filed, which had grown over the last several fiscal years, dropped to 12 new filings in FY 87. This represents a 48% decrease from the 23 filings in FY 86 and FY 85, and a 40% decrease from the 20 filings in FY 84. This decline appears to be directly attributable to the fact that the Alaska Bar Association referred fewer attorney discipline and bar application appeals to the supreme court in FY 87.

It is also valuable to compare the total filings in FY 87 with the filings from prior years in terms of overall caseload composition. In effect, whether the overall numbers increased or decreased, did the "mix" of new cases filed change from prior years? The following chart lists the filings for each fiscal year in the four categories collected as a percentage of the overall filings for that year.

SUPREME COURT
Chart I

Caseload Composition - Filings

Fiscal Year	Statistical Category: Civil	Petitions for Hearing	Petitions for Review	Original Applications
FY 87	61%	18%	19%	2%
FY 86	47	27	22	4
FY 85	59	19	18	4
FY 84	55	17	24	4
FY 83	53	21	22	4
FY 82	63	8	26	3

As the chart indicates, the caseload composition has changed over the last six years. FY 82 has been used as a cutoff because that was the first full year of statistics for the supreme court after the creation of the court of appeals and the transfer of a large block of cases to that new court. With the exception of FY 86, the number of petitions for hearing and for review filed has declined from 43% to 37% of the total caseload. There has been a corresponding slow growth in the number of civil filings as a percentage of the overall caseload. Again, FY 86 was a statistically unusual year. With the exception of that one fiscal year, the percentage of civil cases has increased annually from 53% in FY 83 to 61% in FY 87. This change has had a considerable impact upon the court's workload, both in terms of additional requirements for record preparation and the number of cases that the court must review on the merits.

DISPOSITIONS
(Table II & III)

The supreme court disposed of 522 cases in FY 87. This is a 19% decrease from the 645 dispositions in FY 86, an 8% increase from the 484 dispositions in FY 85, and an 8% decrease from the 567 dispositions in FY 84. It should be noted that the 645 dispositions in FY 86 was the highest total for any year since 1976.

The court disposed of 278 civil appeals in FY 87. This represents a 15% decrease from FY 86 (328) and a 2% increase from FY 85 (273). The number of petitions for hearing and for review decided in FY 87 declined to 231 petitions, a 20% decrease from the 290 decided in FY 86, and a 17% increase from the 193 decided in FY 85. The number of petitions for hearing decided decreased by 26% from 163 in FY 86 to 120 in FY 87. This FY 87 total is a 29% increase, however, from the 93 petitions for hearing decided in FY 85. The number of petitions for review decided in FY 87 decreased by 13% from 127 in FY 86 to 111 in FY 87. This latter figure is a 7% increase from the 104 petitions for review decided in FY 85.

The court, thus, lost ground in reducing its backlog of civil appeals waiting to be decided. It decided 78 fewer civil appeals than were filed in FY 87. This left it with 379 pending civil cases at the end of the year, a 25% increase from the 303 civil appeals pending at the end of FY 86.

The court issued 115 opinions in FY 87, a 12% decrease from the 131 opinions published in FY 86 and an 11% increase over the FY 85 figure of 104. The court also issued 44 unpublished memorandum opinion and judgments (MO&Js), a 30% decrease from the 63 MO&Js released in FY 86 and a 33% decrease from the 66 issued in FY 85. The publication percentage (published opinions as a percentage of total written rulings on the merits) was 72% in FY 87. This figure has fluctuated over the last several years from 89% in FY 83 to 87% in FY 84, 61% in FY 85, 66% in FY 86, and now 72% in FY 87. The court continues to issue MO&Js as a means of deciding cases without the time and effort necessary to prepare a formal opinion for publication in each case, but it uses this tool to a greater degree in some years than in others.

As with filings, it is interesting to view the court's annual disposition statistics in terms of caseload composition. Chart II below sets out these figures for the past six fiscal years in terms of dispositions for each category as a percentage of the overall dispositions for that year. FY 82 shows an unusual breakdown because the court of appeals was just getting started and it had not issued that many decisions that could be the basis for petitions for hearing to the supreme court. Beginning with FY 83, the caseload composition for dispositions has remained quite consistent.

SUPREME COURT
Chart II

Caseload Composition - Dispositions

Fiscal Year	Statistical Category: Civil	Petitions for Hearing	Petitions for Review	Original Applications
FY 87	53%	23%	21%	3%
FY 86	51	25	20	4
FY 85	56	19	22	3
FY 84	57	18	21	4
FY 83	57	18	22	3
FY 82	65	6	24	5

PENDING CASELOAD
(Tables III, IV & VI)

The number of cases pending on June 30, 1987, stood at 455, a 17% increase from the end-of-year total in FY 86 (390), and a 13% increase from the FY 85 total (404). The number of cases pending at the end of FY 87 was the highest total since 1980, the year before the court of appeals was created and began operations.

The court had fewer discretionary petitions pending at the end of FY 87 (69) than at the end of FY 86 (79), but the number of civil appeals pending increased by 25% from 303 at the end of FY 86 to 379 at the end of FY 87.

Reviewing the pending caseload based upon the stage in the appellate process that the case has reached rather than upon the nature of the proceedings reveals that 57% of the cases (261 of 455 total cases) were at a stage of the appellate proceeding prior to consideration of the case on the merits by the court (awaiting preparation of the record, filing of briefs, or submission of the case to the court on the briefs or oral argument.) Another 35% of the cases (161 of 455) had been submitted to the court, but had not yet had a decision on whether to grant a discretionary application or

the court had not filed an opinion or MO&J on the merits. This breakdown has not changed substantially for several years. In FY 86, 58% of the pending cases at the end of the year were at a stage prior to consideration and 31% of the cases were before the court for decision on the merits. The FY 85 figures were 56% and 38%.

At the end of FY 86, 28% of the pending cases (110 of 390) were awaiting the certification of the record on appeal. During FY 86 and FY 87, the superior court made special efforts to reduce this backlog. By the end of FY 87, the number of pending cases awaiting preparation of the record had dropped to 14% of the total (65 of 455). The success in reducing the backlog of cases awaiting record preparation was reflected, however, in the increase in the number of cases awaiting filing of a brief. At the end of FY 86, 24% (94 of 390) of the pending cases were awaiting the filing of a brief. By the end of FY 87 that figure had risen to 36% (162 of 455). The court is thus facing a large block of cases that will become ready for consideration on the merits and disposition during FY 88.

The increase in the civil appeal backlog is reflected in the caseload composition figures for the last several years. Chart III (below) notes that the number of civil cases pending at the end of the year as a percentage of the total pending cases increased by 5% from FY 86 to FY 87. This shift in caseload composition is due to both an increase in filings of civil appeals and a decrease in filings of criminal petitions.

TIME REQUIRED FOR DISPOSITION OF CASES (Table V)

Computerized statistics for the time required for disposition of civil appeals, figures for the median and

SUPREME COURT
Chart III

Caseload Composition
Pending at End of Fiscal Year

	Statistical Category			
Fiscal Year	Civil	Petitions for Hearing	Petitions for Review	Original Applications
FY 87	83%	7%	8%	2%
FY 86	78	12	8	2
FY 85	82	9	5	4
FY 84	81	7	11	1
FY 83	82	10	7	2

average number of days to disposition, and tenth and ninetieth percentile statistics first became available in FY 86. While Table V includes length of time to disposition statistics for FY 85 and FY 84, the FY 87 statistics can be most accurately compared to the FY 86 computerized information.

The ideal time frame for completion of an appeal under the time limits specified in the Appellate Rules and the internal operating procedures of the court is 10.8 months.[4] The average number of days between the filing of the notice of appeal and the closing of a civil case increased by 1% from 498 days in FY 86 to 504 days in FY 87. Another way of expressing this is that total time of disposition increased from 16.6 months in FY 86 to 16.8 months in FY 87. The median number of days for completion of a civil appeal in FY 87 increased from 467 days in FY 86 to 482 days in FY 87. The median figure was still 22 days less than the average number of days needed to decide a civil appeal in FY 87. It appears that the figure for the average number of days was skewed upward by the closing of at least one very old case in FY 87. This is supported by the fact that the statistics for the tenth percentile and ninetieth percentile cases declined from FY 86 to FY 87. The majority of the cases (the 80% of the cases between the tenth percentile and ninetieth percentile) were decided in less time than in prior years.

The average period of time from the filing of the notice of appeal to oral argument or submission of the case for consideration on the briefs increased from 309 days in FY 85 and 302 days FY 86 to 322 days in FY 87. This increase appears to be primarily due to the backlog in record preparation, as reflected in the fact that the average time from filing of the notice of appeal to the certification of the record increased from 71 days in FY 86 to 90 days in FY 87. As the backlog of civil records is reduced, the average time between the opening of a case and the time that the court begins consideration on the merits should also decline.

On the other hand, the average time period from oral argument or submission of the case on the briefs to the publication of an opinion or MO&J decreased from 168 days in both FY 85 and FY 86 to 158 days in FY 87. The court has made steady progress over the last six years in reducing the average time that appeals are under advisement before the court.

PETITIONS FOR HEARING

The supreme court has traditionally exercised its discretionary power to hear appeals from the decisions of the court of appeals sparingly. Between FY 83 and FY 85, the court granted 13 to 14% of the petitions for hearing that it considered. This figure rose to 20% in FY 86, but this increase appears to be due to the fact that during FY 86 the court granted and stayed 13 petitions for hearing that raised issues similar to those presented in State v. Andrews and Koenig, 707 P.2d 900 (Alaska App. 1985), aff'd, 723 P.2d 85 (Alaska 1986). This block of cases was subsequently remanded for further action in light of Andrews. In FY 87 there was no comparable block of cases raising identical issues. The court granted 13 petitions for hearing and denied

---

[4] See page 40 for all footnote references.

85 petitions in FY 87, giving a grant rate of 13%, which is the same as the rate in FY 83 through FY 85.

COURT OF APPEALS

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICAL CATEGORIES

The court of appeals' caseload has traditionally been divided into the following statistical categories:

Merit Appeals - Cases in which a party raises issues on the merits of a conviction in a direct appeal from the superior court or the district court. If the party raises issues on both the merits of the conviction and the sentence imposed, the case is included in this category.

Sentence Appeals - Cases in which a party appeals the sentence imposed.

Petitions - Cases in which a party requests that the court of appeals exercise its discretion in reviewing a ruling in a pending superior or district court matter (petition for review) or requests that the court of appeals review a decision of the superior court sitting on appeal from a final judgment in the district court (petition for hearing).

Original Applications - Cases in which relief cannot be obtained from the court of appeals through one of the above types of appeals.

FILINGS
(Tables VII & IX)

A total of 523 new cases were filed or reinstated in FY 87.[5] This represents an 11% decrease from the 588 filings in FY 86, and a 3% increase from the 506 filings in FY 85. The 332 new merit appeals filed in FY 87 was a 4% decrease from the 346 filed in FY 86. It should be noted, however, that the FY 86 figure is the highest number of new merit appeals filed in any year since the creation of the court of appeals. The number of merit appeals filed in FY 87 was still high although not at the record level reached in FY 86. The number of sentence appeals filed in FY 87 (137) decreased by 13% from the figure for both FY 85 and FY 86 (158). The number of petitions filed in FY 87 (54) decreased by 35% from the FY 86 total (83) and by 10% from the figure in FY 85 (60). Again, it should be noted that the FY 86 figure is the highest in the history of the court. No original applications were filed with the court of appeals in FY 87.

Reviewing the new filings in terms of total felony versus total misdemeanor figures reveals that 68% of the filings for the year (358 of 523) involved felonies (both merit and sentence appeals). Misdemeanor filings (both merit and sentence) totalled 111 matters, or 21% of the total filings. These figures on felony and misdemeanor filings as percentages of the total annual filings compare to ratios of 61% felonies and 24% misdemeanors in FY 86, 75% felonies and 17% misdemeanors in FY 85, and 61% felonies and 21% misdemeanors in FY 84.

The total number of petitions filed with the court of appeals decreased by 35% in FY 87. The number of felony petitions filed decreased from 52 in FY 85 to 43 in FY 86 to 39 in FY 87. This is a 9% decrease from FY 86 to FY 87. The decline in

---

[5] See page 40 for all footnote references.

petitions filed in FY 87 was most noticeable with the misdemeanor petitions. Misdemeanor petitions for review had increased from 8 filed in FY 85 to 30 filed in FY 86. Thirteen misdemeanor petitions were filed in FY 87, a 57% decrease from FY 86.

It is useful to review the court's caseload composition for new filings to see whether it has changed in the past few years. Chart I below sets out the filings in the four statistical categories as a percentage of the total filings in the individual fiscal years.

The number of sentence filings has remained as a stable segment of the overall caseload. The number of merit appeals filed as a percentage of the total caseload has increased since FY 82, and there has been a commensurate decrease in the number of petitions filed as percentage of the overall caseload.

COURT OF APPEALS
Chart I

Caseload Composition - Filings

Fiscal Year	Statistical Category: Merit	Sentence	Petitions	Original Applications
FY 87	64%	26%	10%	0
FY 86	59	27	14	0
FY 85	57	31	12	0
FY 84	59	28	12	1
FY 83	59	28	13	0
FY 82	53	26	18	3
FY 81	60	16	22	2

DISPOSITIONS
(Tables VII, VIII & IX)

The court of appeals disposed of 483 cases during FY 87, a 30% decrease from the 688 dispositions in FY 86, and a 5% increase from the 461 dispositions in FY 85.[6] The number of merit appeals decided decreased by 23% from 381 in FY 86 to 293 in FY 87. The FY 87 figure is a 4% increase from the 283 merit appeal dispositions in FY 85.

The number of sentence appeal dispositions decreased by 34% from 206 in FY 86 to 135 in FY 87. The FY 87 figure is an 11% increase from the 122 sentence dispositions in FY 85. Finally, the number of petitions decided decreased by 45% from 99 in FY 86 to 54 in FY 87. The FY 87 number is a 2% decrease from the 55 petitions decided in FY 85.

---

[6] See page 40 for all footnote references.

The ratio of felony to misdemeanor dispositions (both merit and sentence) has remained constant for several years. In FY 87, 64% of the total dispositions involved felony matters (309 out of 483 total dispositions), and 25% involved misdemeanor cases (119 out of 483). In prior years, the ratios were 63% felony to 21% misdemeanor in FY 84, 63% felony to 25% misdemeanor in FY 85, and 64% felony to 21% misdemeanor in FY 86.

When the number of felony dispositions is divided between merit and sentence appeals, it reveals that 60% of the felony dispositions in FY 87 (184 of 309) involved merit cases and 40% involved sentence appeals (125 of 309). This ratio has remained stable over the past several years. The figures for prior years were 56% felony merit to 44% felony sentence dispositions in FY 84, 64% felony merit to 36% felony sentence in FY 85, and 58% felony merit to 42% felony sentence in FY 86.

In misdemeanor cases, however, the disposition ratio between merit and sentence appeals has shifted over the last several years. In FY 84, the ratio was 81% merit to 19% sentence and in FY 85, 85% merit to 15% sentence dispositions. In FY 86, the comparable ratio was 86% merit to 14% sentence. By FY 87, 92% of the misdemeanor dispositions involved merit appeals (109 out of 119), and 8% involved sentence appeals (10 out of 119). This trend does not mirror the filing ratios for these years.[7] This has led to an increase in the backlog of pending misdemeanor sentence appeals at the end of FY 87.

The court of appeals issued 80 published opinions in FY 87, a 46% decrease from the total of 149 published in FY 86, and a 22% decrease from the 103 published in FY 85. The court also issued 225 unpublished MO&Js, a 33% decrease from the 337 MO&Js issued in FY 86 and a 5% decrease from the 238 issued in FY 85. The FY 87 figures reflect a publication percentage of 26%. This compares with publication percentages of 31% in FY 86, 30% in FY 85, and 33% in FY 84.

Total dispositions can be compared with total filings in order to reveal backlog trends. Two hundred and thirty-eight felony merit cases were filed in FY 87, while 184 were decided. One hundred and twenty felony sentence appeals were filed, but 125 were decided. Thus, the court's backlog of felony cases increased by 49 cases. In misdemeanor appeals, 94 misdemeanor merit appeals were filed in FY 87, and 109 were decided. Seventeen misdemeanor sentence appeals were added, and 10 were decided. Thus, the overall backlog of misdemeanor appeals decreased by 8 cases in FY 87. Finally, 54 petitions were filed in FY 87, and 54 were decided, leaving the backlog unchanged.

It is also helpful to review annual dispositions from the point of view of caseload composition. In Chart II, the dispositions in each statistical category are shown as a percentage of the total dispositions for the fiscal year.

---

[7] See page 40 for all footnote references.

COURT OF APPEALS
Chart II

Caseload Composition - Dispositions

Statistical Category

Fiscal Year	Merit	Sentence	Petitions	Original Applications
FY 87	61%	28%	11%	0
FY 86	55	30	15	0
FY 85	61	27	12	0
FY 84	53	32	15	0
FY 83	59	29	12	0
FY 82	53	19	24	4
FY 81	42	21	34	3

As Chart II indicates, while individual statistical categories have increased and decreased in various years, the overall mix of cases decided by the court each year has not changed substantially since FY 83.

PENDING CASELOAD
(Tables VII, IX & X)

There were 427 open files in the court of appeals on June 30, 1987, an increase of 10% from the 388 cases pending at the end of the prior year. Of these 427 cases, 78% (331 of 427) were merit appeals, and 19% (88 of 427) were sentence appeals. The comparable ratios for prior years were 79% merit to 19% sentence in FY 86, 70% merit to 26% sentence in FY 85, and 79% merit to 19% sentence in FY 84.

Of the 427 open files at the end of FY 87, 275 (or 65% of the total) were awaiting the completion of the record, the filing of briefs, or the submission of the case to the court. Another 114 cases (or 26% of the total) were under advisement (awaiting the circulation of a draft opinion or MO&J or the filing of the disposition.) This ratio of pending cases at a stage prior to submission to the court versus cases under advisement has fluctuated over the last several years. In FY 86, 72% of the pending cases were at a stage prior to submission to the court and 16% of the cases were under advisement. In FY 85, the comparable ratio was 45% to 45%. In FY 84, 59% of the cases were awaiting submission to the court and 32% were under advisement.

There had been a large jump in the number of cases awaiting preparation of the record on appeal in FY 86. This backlog continued into FY 87. In FY 84, 13% (70 of 443) of the cases pending at the end of the year were awaiting completion of the record on appeal. By the end of FY 85, this had increased to 17% (81 of 486) of the total. By FY 86, 33% (127 of 388) of the cases pending at the end of the year were awaiting preparation of the

record. In FY 87, 32% (135 of 427) of the cases were in this category. Steps have been taken to resolve this bottleneck, including the awarding of bids to transcribers outside the court system to prepare transcripts. Nonetheless, a large number of cases still await the preparation of a record and this block of cases is a substantial portion of the court's caseload.

TIME REQUIRED FOR DISPOSITION OF CASES (Table XI)

Computerized length of time to disposition statistics for the entire fiscal year were first available for FY 86. The FY 87 statistics have, thus, been compared only with the FY 86 information.

The average time for disposition in FY 87 was 480 days for felony merit appeals, 296 days for misdemeanor merit appeals, 204 days for felony sentence appeals, and 284 days for misdemeanor sentence appeals. These figures represent a 2% decrease for felony merit appeals, a 4% decrease for misdemeanor merit appeals, an 18% decrease for felony sentence appeals, and a 24% increase for misdemeanor sentence appeals from FY 86.

It should also be noted that the median number of days for disposition in each of the statistical categories was lower than the average number of days for disposition. This is an indication that cases on the upper end of the disposition figures, which took a long time to complete, skewed the figures for the average number of days upwards. This is especially true in felony merit appeals where the median figure is 406 days for completion, while the average number of days is 490 for completion of a felony merit appeal.

FOOTNOTES

1. A party may appeal as of right a decision by the district court in a civil matter to the superior court. The losing party in the superior court may then petition the supreme court to exercise its discretion and hear the matter. These civil petitions for hearing have been included in the statistical category of "petitions for review."

2. Hereafter, all references to "filings" shall include both new filings, reinstatements of cases previously closed, and cases transferred from the court of appeals to the supreme court pursuant to Appellate Rule 408. There were 581 new filings, 4 cases reinstated, and 2 cases transferred to the supreme court from the court of appeals in FY 87.

3. Statistics for FY 87 will be compared throughout with figures for several prior fiscal years in order to provide a better picture of recent statistical trends in the supreme court and the court of appeals.

4. This "ideal time frame" is calculated based upon assumptions that (a) all of the deadlines in the Appellate Rules for the certification of the record and the filing of the briefs are met, (b) oral argument is scheduled for a date six weeks after the filing of the request for oral argument, and (c) the court circulates a draft opinion or MO&J within 90 days and the draft is approved and published within 40 days thereafter. Based upon a 30-day month, the total of 325 days for completion of the appeal has been rounded to 10.8 months.

5. Hereafter, all references to "filings" shall include both new filings and reinstatements of cases previously closed. There were 502 new filings and 21 cases reinstated in FY 87.

6. It should be noted that FY 86 disposition figures are the highest in the history of the court in several categories, including total dispositions, merit appeals, and sentence appeals. The figure for total dispositions (688) is 95 cases greater than the second highest annual total (594 in FY 83). The figure for merit appeal dispositions (381) is 34 cases higher than the second highest annual total (347 in FY 83). The number of petitions decided (99) is 25% higher than the second highest yearly total (79 in FY 82). The total number of opinions published and MO&Js filed in FY 86 is also the highest in the history of the court.

7. The figures for misdemeanor filings for the same fiscal years are:

	Merit		Sentence	
	% of Total	(No. Filed)	% of Total	(No. Filed)
FY 87	83	(84)	17	(17)
FY 86	87	(120)	13	(18)
FY 85	80	(85)	20	(21)
FY 84	83	(106)	17	(21)

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE I

RECAPITULATION - FISCAL YEAR 1987

	Civil Appeals	Criminal Appeals	Petitions for Review	Originals	TOTAL
Beginning	303	47	32	8	390
Transferred to Court of Appeals					0
Transferred from Court of Appeals	1		1		2
Filed	352	106	111	12	581
Reinstated	3	1			4
Converted[a] (net)	-2		+2		0
Corrected (net)					0
Closed	278	120	111	13	522
Ending	379	34	35	7	455

[a]By action of the court or the parties, cases are occasionally converted from one type to another. These figures represent the net of all such changes during 1987.

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE II

DISPOSITIONS - FISCAL 1987

DISPOSITIONS	Civil Appeals	Criminal Appeals	Petitions for Review[a]	Original Applications	TOTAL ALL CASES
PUBLISHED OPINION					
Affirmed	45	5	4		54
Reversed or vacated	35	8	2		45
Affirmed in part/Reversed in part	22		1		23
Other	10	1		2	13
Total	112	14	7	2	135
SUMMARILY ON MERITS					
Affirmed	35	1		2	38
Reversed or vacated	6				6
Affirmed in part/Reversed in part	2		1	2	5
Other	7	20	8	1	36
Total	50	21	9	5	85
TOTAL ON MERITS	162	35	16	7	220
PETITION DENIALS		81	72	4	157
DISMISSALS					
Stipulated or by Appellant	75	2	12	1	90
Motion of Appellee	7	1			8
Sua sponte	34	1	11	1	47
TOTAL NOT ON MERITS	116	85	95	6	302
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	278	120	111	13	522

[a]Also includes two small categories of petitions for hearing. See text.

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE III - HISTORICAL[a]

	1980[c]	1980-81[c]	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87[d]
A. FILINGS[b]								
Civil Appeals	255	303	257	271	300	311	295	356
Criminal Appeals	102	32	33	92	79	93	152	) 107
Sentence Appeals	51	15	1	14	13	9	21	)
Petitions for Review	140	119	104	113	129	92	140	112
Originals	24	24	14	19	20	23	23	12
TOTAL	572	493	409	509	541	528	631	587
B. DISPOSITIONS								
Civil Appeals	247	264	273	307	325	273	328	278
Criminal Appeals	126	104	26	83	89	79	148	) 120
Sentence Appeals	44	32	1	12	12	14	15	)
Petitions for Review	148	146	102	118	119	104	127	111
Originals	21	22	20	18	22	14	27	13
TOTAL	586	568	422	538	567	484	645	522
C. DISPOSITIONS								
On Merits	320	348	209	241	257	213	256	220
Petitions & Originals Denied	93	88	98	179	190	157	230	157
Dismissals	173	132	115	118	120	114	159	145
TOTAL	586	568	422	538	567	484	645	522
D. OPINIONS PUBLISHED	248	263	140	172	148	104	131	115
MEMORANDUM OPINION AND JUDGMENTS	26	19	21	21	43	66	63	44
E. PENDING END OF YEAR								
Civil Appeals	351	366	353	316	291	331	303	379
Criminal Appeals	41	13	23	33	21	35	41	) 34
Sentence Appeals	12	1	1	4	5	1	6	)
Petitions for Review	43	28	29	26	38	22	32	35
Originals	9	10	6	7	5	15	8	7
TOTAL	456	418	412	386	360	404	390	455

[a]The figures for cases pending at the end of one year plus the next year's filings minus dispositions do not always equal cases pending at the end of the following year due to reclassifications and corrections. See footnote a to Table I.

[b]Includes reinstatements.

[c]On September 18, 1980, the Court of Appeals began operations and the jurisdiction and workload of the Supreme Court changed significantly. Information before and after that date is therefore not strictly comparable. The 1980 reporting period covers the calendar year 1980. It overlaps by six months with the 1980-81 reporting period, which begins July 1, 1980 and ends June 30, 1981. Activity during the last six months of 1980 is therefore reported in both columns.

[d]Criminal appeals and sentence appeals have been merged and listed solely as criminal appeals beginning with FY87. See also Explanation of Statistical Categories for the Supreme Court in the text.

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE IV

REASONS FOR CASES PENDING JUNE 30, 1987

	Civil Appeals	Criminal Appeals	Petitions for Review	Original Applications	TOTAL ALL CASES
Awaiting record	65				65
Awaiting briefs	123	18	18	3	162
Awaiting hearing/submission	31	2	1		34
Awaiting draft opinion	83		5		88
Draft Opinion Circulating	46	1	5	3	55
Awaiting decision on granting petition		12	5	1	18
Decision on rehearing	10	1			11
Stayed or remanded	21		1		22
Awaiting record return					0
TOTAL CASES PENDING JUNE 30, 1987	379	34	35	7	455

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE V

LENGTH OF TIME TO DISPOSITION

(Average Number of Days)

Cases Decided by Opinion or MO&J

	Fiscal Year 1987 Civil Appeals	(Number of Cases Considered)	Fiscal Year 1986 Civil Appeals	(Number of Cases Considered)	Fiscal Year 1985 Civil Appeals	Fiscal Year 1984 Civil Appeals
Notice of Appeal to Record Certification	90	(157)	71	(193)	73	70
Record certification to Last Brief	146	(155)	147	(193)	150	147
Last Brief to Argument or Submission	86	(156)	84	(192)	86	95
Argument or Submission to Circulation of Draft Opinion or Recommendation	72	(149)	84	(184)	69	99
Circulation of Draft Opinion or Recommendation to Publication	86	(149)	84	(185)	99	122
Publication to Closing	29	(158)	25	(193)	19	25
AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS	504	(158)	498	(193)	496 (181)	558 (208)
Lowest Total Number of Days	27		218		182	55
Tenth Percentile	329		335		-	-
Median Number of Days	482		467		-	-
Ninetieth Percentile	658		684		-	-
Highest Total Number of Days	1856		1096		1350	1272

ALASKA SUPREME COURT & COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE VI

BACKLOG MONTHS

	At FY87 disposition rate, months necessary to dispose of:	
	FY 87 filings	Cases pending 6/30/87
SUPREME COURT		
All cases	13.5	10.5
Civil appeals only	15.3	16.3
COURT OF APPEALS		
All cases	13.0	10.6
Felony merit appeals only	15.5	18.1
Misdemeanor merit appeals only	9.9	5.9
Sentence appeals only	12.2	7.8

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE VII

RECAPITULATION - FISCAL YEAR 1987

	MERIT APPEALS			SENTENCE APPEALS			PETITIONS			ORIGINAL APPLICATIONS	TOTAL
	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior		
Beginning	235	71		66	7		2	4	2	1	388
Transferred from Supreme Court										0	
Transferred to Supreme Court	1						1				2
Filed	229	84		118	17		39	13	2		502
Reinstated	9	10		2							21
Converted (net)[a]	-8	-4		+8	+4		+5	-5			0
Corrected (net)[b]	-3	+2		+4	-3		+1	-2	+2		1
Closed	184	109		125	10		40	9	5	1	483
Ending	277	54		73	15		6	1	1		427

[a] By action of the court or the parties, cases are occasionally converted from one type to another. These figures represent the net of all such changes during 1987.

[b] This category includes cases erroneously misclassified at the time they were filed. These figures represent the net of all such corrections during 1987.

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE VIII

DISPOSITIONS - FISCAL YEAR 1987

	MERIT APPEALS			SENTENCE APPEALS			PETITIONS			ORIGINAL APPLICATIONS	TOTAL
	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior		
DISPOSITIONS											
PUBLISHED OPINION											
Affirmed	24	13		12			1				50
Reversed or vacated	8	3		7	1		1	1			21
Affirmed in part/ Reversed in part	2										2
Other	7	1		1							9
Total	41	17		20	1		2	1			82
SUMMARILY ON MERITS											
Affirmed	72	64		68	3						207
Reversed or vacated	12	5		8			1				26
Affirmed in part/ Reversed in part	2	1		1							4
Other	18	8		7	3		3			1	40
Total	104	78		84	6		4			1	277
TOTAL ON MERITS	145	95		104	7		6	1		1	359
PETITION DENIALS							22	7	3		32
DISMISSALS											
Stipulated or by Appellant	23	4		19	1		5		1		53
Motion of Appellee	2	1									3
Sua sponte	14	9		2	2		7	1	1		36
TOTAL NOT ON MERITS	39	14		21	3		12	8	5		124
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	184	109		125	10		40	9	5		483

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE IX

HISTORICAL[a]

		1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
A.	FILINGS[b]				
	Merit Appeals	312	287	346	332
	Sentence Appeals	150	158	158	137
	Petitions	64	60	83	54
	Originals	5	1	1	0
	TOTAL	531	506	588	523
B.	DISPOSITIONS[c]				
	Merit Appeals	276	283	381	293
	Sentence Appeals	168	122	206	135
	Petitions	77	55	99	54
	Originals	5	1	2	1
	TOTAL	526	461	688	483
C.	DISPOSITIONS				
	On Merits	402	340	541	359
	Petitions & Originals Denied	50	40	66	32
	Dismissals	74	81	81	92
	TOTAL	526	461	688	483
D.	OPINIONS PUBLISHED	120	103	149	82
	MEMORANDUM OPINION & JUDGMENTS and SUMMARY DISPOSITIONS	242	238	337	277
E.	PENDING END OF YEAR				
	Merit Appeals	350	342	306	331
	Sentence Appeals	82	124	72	88
	Petitions	11	19	8	8
	Originals	0	1	1	0
	TOTAL	443	486	387	427

[a]The figures for cases pending at the end of one year plus the next year's filings minus dispositions do not always equal cases pending at the end of the following year due to reclassification and corrections. See footnotes a and b to Table I.

[b]Includes reinstatements and transfers from the supreme court.

[c]Includes transfers to the supreme court.

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE X

Reasons for Cases Pending - June 30, 1987

	MERIT APPEALS			SENTENCE APPEALS			PETITIONS			ORIGINAL APPLICATIONS	TOTAL
	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior		
Awaiting record	119	5		7	4						135
Awaiting briefs	88	24		19	2		5	1	1		140
Awaiting hearing/ submission											0
With central staff											0
Not with central staff											0
Awaiting draft disposition	26	15		24	4						69
Draft disposition circulating	19	6		16	3		1				45
Awaiting decision on granting petition											0
Awaiting decision on Rehearing	6	2		4							12
Stayed or remanded	19	2		3	2						26
Awaiting record return											0
TOTAL:	277	54		73	15		6	1	1		427

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

LENGTH OF TIME TO DISPOSITION - TABLE XI

Average Number of Days (Cases Counted)

Appeals Closed by Opinion or Memorandum Opinion & Judgment

	July 1985-June 1986				July 1986- June 1987			
	Felony Merit (Cases Counted)	Misdemeanor Merit (Cases Counted)	Felony Sentence (Cases Counted)	Misdemeanor Sentence (Cases Counted)	Felony Merit	Misdemeanor Merit (Cases Averaged)	Felony Sentence	Misdemeanor Sentence
Notice of Appeal to Record Certification	83 (214)	21 (109)	20 (157)	17 (19)	120 (145)	23 (93)	25 (100)	28 (8)
Record certification to Last Brief	185 (213)	94 (108)	75 (157)	105 (19)	197 (143)	94 (93)	63 (100)	107 (8)
Last Brief to Argument or Submission	44 (210)	38 (107)	13 (157)	-5 (19)	21 (145)	28 (89)	17 (98)	6 (8)
Argument or Submission to Circulation of Draft Opinion or Recommendation	95 (201)	79 (92)	79 (152)	49 (18)	67 (142)	44 (82)	39 (95)	46 (8)
Circulation of Draft Opinion or Recommendation to Publication	57 (205)	47 (93)	41 (152)	43 (18)	49 (143)	50 (85)	35 (97)	77 (8)
Publication to Closing	24 (215)	25 (109)	20 (157)	20 (19)	37 (148)	61 (93)	23 (100)	17 (8)
AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS	490 (215)	309 (109)	248 (157)	229 (19)	480 (148)	296 (93)	204 (100)	284 (8)
Lowest Number of Days	46	116	94	88	35	144	101	137
Tenth Percentile	273	150	134	88	242	155	131	137
Median Number of Days	463	271	234	217	406	242	169	224
Ninetieth Percentile	771	530	389	385	806	479	295	446
Highest Number of Days	1327	622	695	407	1496	1234	679	475

YEAR IN REVIEW

YEAR IN REVIEW

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Anchorage Courthouse Expansion	55
Security Issues	55
Legislation	56
The Trial Courts	57
First Judicial District	57
Second Judicial District	57
Third Judicial District	58
Fourth Judicial District	58
Court Administration	59
Court Rules	59
Fines Due Project	59
Microfilming Project	59
Audio Tape Archives	60
Records Retention Schedule	60
Forms Committee	60
Law Libraries	60
Affirmative Action	61
Retirements	62
Trial Courts Statistical Summary - FY 87	64
Superior Court	66
District Court	72

Year in Review

Anchorage Courthouse Expansion

During FY 87, the court system made significant progress with its plans to expand the Anchorage courthouse. The legislature authorized the court system to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for this project in 1984 (Chapter 78, SLA 1984). The schematic design phase was completed in April 1986. The Anchorage Planning and Zoning Commission granted final conditional use approval to the court system in June 1986. Design development, which includes detailed design of all interior spaces and security measures, will be completed in November 1987. Completion of construction documents is scheduled for March 1988, with bids to be received in June 1988.

This expansion project will add approximately 350,000 square feet to the existing complex. There will be twenty new courtrooms, including a high security courtroom and a court of appeals courtroom. The new complex will consist of two separate structures: a west addition to be constructed over the existing parking lot next to the Boney Building and to be connected to the existing building; and an east addition to be constructed on Fourth Avenue between "H" and "I" Streets. The buildings will be connected by two sky bridges over "I" Street. Office space will be available for other justice-related agencies including the Judicial Services Section of the state troopers, the district attorneys, the public defenders, the Office of Public Advocacy and the Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals. There will also be space for three commercial enterprises fronting on Fourth Avenue.

Preparations for this project will entail the relocation of electric, telephone, water and sewer utilities, and the demolition of buildings on the north side of Fourth Avenue. Underground utility work is to be accomplished in conjunction with the municipality's pedestrian improvements project by the end of October 1987.

The new courthouse has been designed to provide a higher level of security than is currently possible in the existing buildings. The complex will have three separate circulation patterns: a private circulation for court employees; a public circulation; and a higher security prisoner circulation. Upon completion of the new courthouse, criminal trials will be held in the new building while most civil cases will be heard in the existing courtrooms in the Boney Building. Secured exhibit storage will be located near many of the new courtrooms, thus eliminating excessive movement of exhibits during trials. Jury deliberation rooms will be separated from circulation corridors by sound locks to ensure the jury's privacy during deliberations. Technological components of the security plan will include the use of duress alarms, video surveillance and electronic access control systems.

Security Issues

During FY 87, procedures involved in the handling of case files, exhibits, and audio and computer tapes were given particular scrutiny. Standards for case file management were written by administrative office personnel and distributed to area court administrators for review. An Exhibits Committee was appointed to improve

the security of exhibits storage areas and exhibits handling procedures. Questionnaires were sent to all courts to determine storage needs so that appropriate storage units could be obtained. The committee has also initiated a comprehensive review and revision of exhibits handling procedures. Technical Operations prepared detailed guidelines for the secure storage of audio, video and computer tapes. In addition, security consultants from the Department of Public Safety initiated an effort to inspect court buildings throughout the state to make recommendations for improving building and personnel security.

Legislation

The 1987 Legislature enacted several important pieces of legislation affecting the courts.

Chapter 38, effective September 3, 1987, increased district court jurisdiction from $25,000 to $35,000. This change increases the number of cases that can be processed in the district court. Other provisions of this law permit foreign judgments to be enforced through superior or district court depending on the amount, and specifically authorize magistrates to hear, try and enter judgments in all cases involving violations under AS 11. The bill additionally sets forth impeachment procedures for court of appeals and district court judges, similar to existing procedures for supreme court and superior court judges, and provides that information about judges provided by the Judicial Council to the lieutenant governor for printing and the retention election pamphlet shall contain a brief statement describing each public reprimand, public censure or suspension received by a judge during evaluation period.

Other sections of the bill expand the circumstances in which a judicial officer is disqualified from acting. The bill also clarifies the effective date of retirement for a judge who is retired for disability.

Successful advocacy by physically disabled Alaskans resulted in the passage of Chapter 69, effective September 10, 1987. This measure provides that a person is not disqualified from serving as a juror solely because of the loss of hearing or sight in any degree or disability that substantially impairs or interferes with the person's mobility. The court is required to provide and pay the costs of the services of an interpreter or reader when necessary to enable a person with impaired hearing or sight to act as a juror. As part of the implementation of this legislation, the administrative office of the court system has initiated procedures for reinstating to the master jury list disabled Alaskans who had previously received permanent exemptions but would now like to serve.

Under former Alaska law, the court system performed accounting functions for uncontested traffic and other minor offense citations issued by the municipal enforcement officers, although the revenue from these offenses was returned to municipalities rather than to the state's general fund. Under Chapter 76, which becomes effective January 1, 1988, this accounting function is transferred to municipalities. Municipalities are also permitted to establish fine schedules for these offenses. The administrative office is working with municipalities and courts to implement this measure.

The Trial Courts

First Judicial District

The new Wrangell superior court facility was completed in May 1987 and now provides adequate space for superior court jury trials. The facility is approximately 5,500 square feet and includes a superior courtroom, hearing room, adequate jury facilities, clerk's office, expanded law library and conference rooms for visiting attorneys. Planning for a new courthouse in Craig was completed in June 1987. The facility is scheduled for completion in the fall of 1988. The court system also acquired an additional 500 square feet of office space in the Ketchikan courthouse.

Judge Walter Carpeneti was appointed to the case of State of Alaska v. John Kenneth Peel for retrial. The first trial lasted seven months and ended in a mistrial in August 1986 after the jury was unable to reach a verdict. The retrial is scheduled to begin in November and to last for six months. Venue in this case has been moved from Ketchikan to Juneau. This trial is expected to impact the first district substantially. At the present time, Judge Thomas Jahnke is sitting in Juneau two weeks of every month to help cover Judge Carpeneti's normal caseload. Once the trial begins, travel by other judges will be necessary to help keep the caseload current.

Second Judicial District

The Kotzebue facility was expanded by 25 percent to establish a separate hearing room for district court matters and to provide a grand jury/jury deliberation room. This addition has eliminated the necessity of using space outside the courthouse for hearings and trials. Additional space was acquired at the Nome courthouse to provide two witness/attorney conference rooms. To alleviate storage problems, the superior courts in the second district have sent all audio tapes recorded prior to 1982 to the Micrographics Department in Anchorage for storage.

The Barrow Trial Court has been experimenting with using their IBC computer for jury management. The intent is to create a juror record that records the juror name, number, address, date of summons and subsequent service status. It is anticipated that this automated jury system will be expanded to other courts in the second district. Another use of the computer in Barrow has been in the area of exhibit management. By recording exhibit information on the data entry screen, the Barrow court is able to determine those cases which are closed and have exhibits which can be disposed of.

In comparing FY 86 case filings to FY 87 filings, there has been a decrease of 407 cases district-wide. This reduction in filings has provided an opportunity for the judges in the second district to maintain both current calendars and a positive disposition ratio of 1.04 cases filed to cases terminated.

Through the utilization of computerized case management audit reports, the district has been able to both monitor case activity and handle cases within the statewide guidelines for case processing. The district has also decreased its personnel staffing by one clerical position in order to maintain a realistic ratio of case volume to necessary clerical staff.

Third Judicial District

On April 29, 1986, there was a major fire at the Valdez courthouse. In cooperation with the Valdez city schools, operations continued in the vacant Growden-Harrison Elementary School shortly after the fire. Major reconstruction of the court facility is required. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities began immediately to design and schedule for rebuilding the facility to ensure a quick reoccupancy of the building. Construction is scheduled to begin in September 1987 and the occupancy date is on or before January 1, 1988.

An upgrade to the existing computerized telephone system in the Anchorage courthouse was completed in September 1986. This enhancement provides a data port for an accounting system, permits the use of "smart" phones in strategic locations, and allows for the automatic rebooting of the computer after power outages, all of which increases the efficiency of court operations. The upgraded phone system can also accommodate future increases in court personnel.

The Anchorage Trial Courts fast-track civil case processing system which was begun in April 1986 has continued and appears to have met the initial goal of substantially speeding up the time it takes for a noncomplex civil case to get to trial or to otherwise be disposed of. Although a formal evaluation of the total fast-track system has yet to be conducted, preliminary indications are that 65-70 percent of all civil cases (excluding domestic relations cases) that are filed with the Anchorage superior court are being processed to a conclusion within 365 days or less. Fast-track cases are less complicated cases in which the estimated trial time is ten days or less.

Fourth Judicial District

Two projects to enhance life safety for the users of the Fairbanks courthouse were completed in February 1987. One was the construction of two stairway smoke vents. The other was the construction of a manual-pull fire alarm system connected to the municipal fire department. A third major life safety enhancement project in the Fairbanks courthouse was designed and contracted out in June 1987. This project will provide for the construction of a sprinkler system and is scheduled for completion in October 1987.

Renovation of the traffic department in Fairbanks was completed in late 1986. Other renovations underway in the Fairbanks courthouse include the relocation of the accounting department and the chambers adjacent to Courtrooms 3 and 4. Remodeling in the clerk's office will provide a new public entrance and an area for installation of the computer mainframe when that equipment arrives later in the year.

In Bethel, renovation of the grand jury room to accommodate district court trials was completed at a minimal cost to the court system. The availability of this additional courtroom will allow greater flexibility in the scheduling of superior court and district court trials.

The court system completed a lease with the City of Emmonak for approximately 1,000 square feet of courtroom and office space in April 1986. This space provides for district court trials and support space. This space is located in the Emmonak Public Safety building which was built with state funds.

Court Administration

During FY 87, the court continued efforts to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of court system operations.

Court Rules

A significant change in FY 87 was a change in format in the Alaska Rules of Court. After a competitive bid process, the rules are now published in a one volume soft-bound edition with significant cost savings to the court system, other state agencies and attorneys. The annual savings to the court system will be in excess of $40,000. Total annual savings to the state will be at least twice this amount. In addition to cost savings, the new format will save significant clerical time in supplementing the rules, take up less shelf space, and generally be easier to use.

The major substantive change in the rules of court was the complete revision of the Children's Rules. This revision was the product of the drafts of three separate rules committees, numerous comments from attorneys and other interested parties, and a detailed review by the supreme court. The new rules update court procedures to conform with statutory law and will help to ensure that the requirements of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) are followed in child in need of aid cases.

Numerous other rules amendments were made before the change in format in the rules in order to streamline court procedures and generally update the rules. The disciplinary rules for attorneys were completely revised. New rules were adopted which set out state bail schedules, specify guidelines for the award of child support, set out procedures to protect minors who receive settlements or judgments, and define procedures for the appointment of expert panels in medical malpractice cases.

Fines Due Project

In cooperation with the Department of Law, the court system devised a worksheet to be used to gather information from all court locations on fines ordered by the court that had not been paid. Employees at each court location reviewed all criminal cases in which a fine had been ordered between January 1, 1985 and January 1, 1987, and which had not been paid. The information has been given to the Department of Law and may be used to determine whether collection agencies have an interest in making collection attempts in these cases for a percentage of the recovery.

Microfilming Project

In January 1986, the court system began a massive microfilming effort to help alleviate space concerns in rural courts and to improve access to historical court records. During FY 87, the micrographics unit filmed closed case files for the following locations: Barrow, Bethel, Glennallen, Kotzebue, Nome and Sitka. It is anticipated that by July 1988, case files dating from 1960 through 1982 from all rural courts will have been filmed.

The micrographics effort has included not only the filming of closed case records, but the production of a computerized numeric case number index to accompany the completed rolls of microfilm. This index allows the user to locate the desired case number, the roll of microfilm that it is stored on and the reference point

on the roll of film at which the beginning case document can be located. The data entry required to produce this index has become more time-consuming that the actual microfilming itself.

Audio Tape Archives

The Records Manager of the administrative office has established a Tape Archives Unit to provide secure, centralized storage for audio tapes of court proceedings from the rural courts. To date, over 6,000 reel-to-reel tapes have been archived. In conjunction with the storage process, an automated cross-reference index has been created to identify the storage box number for each tape.

Records Retention Schedule

Effective January 1, 1987, the court system adopted a new policy on retention, destruction and microfilming of records. This policy, set forth in Administrative Bulletin No. 25, established retention/disposition schedules for court records and allows for the disposing of certain records after the minimum hard-copy retention period has passed.

Forms Committee

Fiscal year 1987 was a very active year for the Forms Committee. The promulgation of the new Children's Rules necessitated a revision of all Children's Proceedings (CP) forms. The committee had to prepare forms and instructions to implement new Civil Rule 90.3 concerning child support awards. In addition, the committee must review and revise all court forms prior to January 1, 1988, the effective date for the conversion to letter-size paper. The conversion is expected to generate long-term savings through decreased costs for paper, file folders, file cabinets and other file storage equipment.

Law Libraries

The court system maintains seventeen libraries for the use of the judiciary, members of the bar and the general public. The Anchorage Law Library is the administrative headquarters for the system and serves as the major legal resource facility.

The Anchorage Law Library maintains a professional staff to provide reference and interlibrary loan services to its patrons. Reference activity increased 25 percent from the previous year: 16,142 in-person and telephone inquiries were recorded.

Interlibrary loan services are a vital resource for both branch libraries and headquarters library patrons. The library has continued to participate in the interlibrary subsystem made available through WLN, the Washington Library Network, taking advantage of a cost-effective means of resource sharing among law libraries in the Pacific Northwest. Statistics reflect that a total of 712 items from the Anchorage Law Library were supplied to library patrons in locations other than Anchorage, and 190 items were supplied from other facilities for the use of Anchorage Law Library patrons.

The Anchorage Law Library was chosen as a test site for the implementation of a serials control module to the DYNIX automated library system. Once the serials module is fully operational, the library will benefit from reduced labor intensive clerical work and improved collection maintenance.

The records in the public online catalog were increased by 2,039, and the library collection experienced a net growth of 8,289 volumes.

Online legal research usage of the WESTLAW system by the judiciary experienced a 27 percent increase and reflects the increasing importance of computer-assisted research tools.

Affirmative Action

As a part of the court system's Affirmative Action Outreach Program the personnel staff works with a variety of organizations responsible for training minority, disabled, and unemployed persons. These organizations' trainees are placed in suitable work sites within the court in order that the trainees may gain work experience and on-the-job training. After completion of training, some of the ex-trainees are hired as regular court system employees.

In recognition of its outstanding employment and training support services, the Alaska Court System was awarded a certificate of appreciation at the 8th National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference.

Due to the hiring freeze which was in place throughout FY 87, only 74 positions were filled by permanent appointments. Of the 74 permanent appointments, 14 were promotions and 62 were new hires. Twenty-nine (29) of the new hires were law clerks who were selected prior to the hiring freeze being imposed. All 29 law clerks were Caucasians. The racial composition of the 33 remaining new hires was 27 Caucasians, 2 Alaska Natives, 1 Black, 1 Asian/Pacific Islander and 2 classified as Other Minorities. Of the 14 promoted employees, 12

Quarter Ending June 1987

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

I. SUMMARY: CLASSIFIED AND NON-JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES

				MALE					FEMALE				
Ranges	Total Employees	Total Female	Total Minority	Caucasian	Alaska Native	Black	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Other	Caucasian	Alaska Native	Black	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Other
6 & 8	58	50	13	7	0	1	0	0	38	3	5	1	3
10	110	100	15	9	0	0	0	1	86	8	2	1	3
12	135	131	26	4	0	0	0	0	105	12	9	2	3
13 & 14	41	39	9	1	0	1	0	0	31	4	2	1	1
15 - 20	31	23	2	8	0	0	0	0	21	0	1	0	1
21 & Above	31	12	2	18	0	0	1	0	11	0	1	0	0
Law Clerk	38	22	0	16	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	0
Total Employees	444	377	67	63	0	2	1	1	314	27	20	5	11

TOTAL VACANCIES: 69
GRAND TOTAL: 513

II. Percentage of Court System Population by Race

Caucasian	84.9
Alaska Native	6.0
Black	5.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.4
Other	2.7

III. All Justices and Judges

All Filled Positions:	52
Alaska Natives:	1
Caucasian:	50
Other	1
(Females: 8)	

IV. Magistrate Positions

All Filled Positions:	40
Alaska Natives:	10
Caucasian:	28
Others:	2
(Females: 15)	

were Caucasian and 2 were Alaska Native.

At the end of FY 87, 444 non-judicial personnel were employed by the Alaska Court System. The racial composition of the workforce included 377 Caucasians (84.9%), 27 Alaska Natives (6.0%), 22 Blacks (5.0%), 6 Asian/Pacific Islanders (1.4%) and 12 employees classified as Other Minorities (2.7%).

Women comprised 85 percent of the non-judicial staff. Ninety-five percent (95%) of the first-line supervisory positions were filled by women, as well as 74 percent of the professional positions, 58 percent of the law clerk positions and 39 percent of the managerial positions.

Retirements

A number of long-time court system employees chose FY 87 as their year to retire. In the fourth district, Superior Court Judge Gerald Van Hoomissen stepped down after 16 years on the bench. In addition to his judicial duties, Judge Van Hoomissen served six one-year terms as presiding judge for the fourth district. District Court Judge Hugh H. Connelly announced his intention to retire in November 1987, after 27 years in that position. Judge Connelly's judicial career began in territorial days when he served as a municipal judge for the City of Fairbanks. He was appointed to the district court in 1960.

Fairbanks Probate Master Carol Davis retired after 18 years of service with the State of Alaska. Raymond M. Funk was selected to fill the vacancy. He clerked for Justice Rabinowitz in 1979 and had served with the Public Defender Agency since 1981. Coroner/Public Administrator Frederick H. Smith retired after 10 years with the court in Fairbanks. Arlys Borjesson was chosen to fill the position. Arlys has been a state employee since 1960 and a court employee since 1967.

Barbara E. Macfarlane

Barbara E. Macfarlane retired as magistrate at Healy and Nenana on December 31, 1986, after 12 years of service. Paul Verhagen, formerly magistrate at Tanana, accepted a transfer to the Nenana/Healy position, and continues to serve Tanana on a monthly basis.

The magistrate vacancy at Fort Yukon created by the resignation of Sharon C. Smyth in August 1986 was filled on July 13, 1987 by the selection of Thomas L. Knudson. An 11-year resident of Fort Yukon, Tom has also served as a member of that community's town council.

Sharon C. Smyth

In the third judicial district, Assistant Area Court Administrator/ Clerk of Court Goldeen Goodfellow retired, having served in this position since October 1980. Her first job in the court system was in 1966 as secretary to the late Justice John Dimond. In 1969, she became secretary to the administrative director; one year later she was appointed chief deputy clerk and special assistant to the area court administrator. After a four-year "retirement," she returned to the court system in 1980. LeEllen Baker was appointed to fill the vacancy created by Goldeen's retirement. LeEllen has served the court system since the early 1970's in six different positions.

Goldeen Goodfellow

Brigitte McBride

Brigitte McBride retired from the court system on April 30, 1987 after 16 years of service. Brigitte had served as magistrate in Seldovia, Kodiak and Kenai. Shannon Turner, a deputy prosecutor in the Kenai prosecutor's office, was appointed to replace Brigitte as the Kenai magistrate.

Dennis Nelson, Kodiak magistrate since early 1987, resigned to enter into private law practice in Tacoma, Washington. Anna Moran was appointed as Kodiak magistrate in June 1987.

In the first judicial district, Sharon Walker, a court employee for 19 years, retired as clerk of court in Juneau. David Haas was selected to replace her. In the Haines District Court, Mimi Gregg retired after 15 years as clerk of court; Karen Hess was appointed as her replacement.

The Administrative Offices experienced an irreplaceable loss with the retirement of Marge Lori after 23 years of service to the Alaska Court System. As Field Auditor, Marge travelled throughout the state training clerks and magistrates, helping with backlog and auditing records. She participated in innumerable training conferences and authored several training manuals. She was always willing to go anywhere, at any time, to do anything that needed to be done. Her influence has been truly statewide and she will be missed.

Marge Lori

Trial Courts Statistical Summary FY 87

This section of the annual report summarizes FY 87 trial court statistics. Comprehensive statistical tables describing the superior and district court caseloads in FY 87 are located in the statistical supplement at the back of this report. Any questions about caseloads may be directed to the administrative office of the Alaska Court System.

In FY 87 the superior court caseload decreased by 7%, while the number of cases filed in the district court increased slightly (less than 1%).

Table I summarizes the number of cases filed in each superior and higher volume district court location for FY 87.

TABLE I
ALASKA TRIAL COURTS
CASELOAD SUMMARY FY 87
7/1/86 - 6/30/87

Court Location	-SUPERIOR COURTS- Filings	% of S.C. Total	-------DISTRICT COURTS---------- Non-Traffic Filings	(1) Traffic Filings	Total	% of D.C. Total	-----TOTALS---- Total Filings	% of State Total
Anchorage	10,422	53.1%	23,062	45,962	69,024	50.4%	79,446	50.7%
Barrow	308	1.6%	349	245	594	.4%	902	.6%
Bethel	458	2.3%	866	517	1,383	1.0%	1,841	1.2%
Cordova			389	63	452	.3%	452	.3%
Craig			574	346	920	.7%	920	.6%
Delta Jct.			180	400	580	.4%	580	.4%
Dillingham			517	167	684	.5%	684	.4%
Fairbanks	2,858	14.6%	6,455	9,870	16,325	11.9%	19,183	12.3%
Glennallen			277	266	543	.4%	543	.3%
Healy			110	677	787	.6%	787	.5%
Homer			1,121	909	2,030	1.5%	2,030	1.3%
Juneau	1,045	5.3%	3,225	3,240	6,465	4.7%	7,510	4.8%
Kenai	1,025	5.2%	2,486	4,185	6,671	4.9%	7,696	4.9%
Ketchikan	745	3.8%	1,853	1,488	3,341	2.4%	4,086	2.6%
Kodiak	426	2.2%	993	2,568	3,561	2.6%	3,987	2.5%
Kotzebue	326	1.7%	804	184	988	.7%	1,314	.8%
Nome	354	1.8%	533	236	769	.6%	1,123	.7%
Palmer	1,000	5.1%	3,278	7,879	11,157	8.1%	12,157	7.8%
Seward			726	1,366	2,092	1.5%	2,092	1.3%
Sitka	347	1.8%	857	1,049	1,906	1.4%	2,253	1.4%
Tok			318	514	832	.6%	832	.5%
Unalaska			315	188	503	.4%	503	.3%
Valdez	102	.5%	381	183	564	.4%	666	.4%
Wrangell/ Petersburg	189 (2)	.9%	342 363	276 146	618 509	.5% .4%	807 509	.5% .3%
Subtotal	19,605	100.0%	50,374	82,924	133,298	97.3%	152,903	97.6%
Lower Volume Courts	-	-	2,665	1,025	3,690	2.7%	3,690	2.4%
TOTALS	19,605	100.0%	53,039	83,949	136,988	100%	156,593	100.0%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FIRST	2,326	11.9%	7,892	6,818	14,710	10.7%	17,036	10.9%
SECOND	988	5.0%	1,995	666	2,661	1.9%	3,649	2.3%
THIRD	12,975	66.2%	34,155	63,820	97,975	71.5%	110,950	70.9%
FOURTH	3,316	16.9%	8,997	12,645	21,642	15.8%	24,958	15.9%

(1) Traffic case dispositions are used as filings in district court.
(2) Wrangell & Petersburg operate a combined superior court but separate district courts.

SUPERIOR COURT

Jurisdiction

The superior court is the trial court of general jurisdiction, with original jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters. Appeals to the superior court from final judgments of the district court are a matter of right. The superior court has exclusive jurisdiction in all domestic relations matters, children's proceedings, probate, guardianship and civil commitments.[1]

FY 87 Caseload - Superior Courts

Table II summarizes FY 87 case filings and dispositions for each superior court location. On a statewide level, the number of cases filed in superior courts decreased by 7% from FY 86. Total dispositions decreased by 1%. Even though there was a slight decrease in dispositions, the ratio of "cases disposed of" to "cases filed" increased by 5%. The second district courts (Nome, Barrow, Kotzebue) all exceeded 100%, indicating a decrease in case backlog.

[1] For more information about superior court jurisdiction, see Profile, supra.

TABLE II
SUPERIOR COURTS
CASELOAD SUMMARY FY 87
7/1/86 - 6/30/87

Court	FY 87 Filings	FY 87 Dispositions	Percent Change in Filings From FY 86	Ratio of Dispositions to Filings FY 86	FY 87
Anchorage	10422	9854	- 7	77%	95%
Barrow	308	322	+ 8	118%	105%
Bethel	458	403	- 18	90%	88%
Fairbanks	2858	2633	- 8	115%	92%
Juneau	1045	924	- 10	78%	88%
Kenai	1025	991	- 6	103%	97%
Ketchikan	745	699	+ 4	90%	94%
Kodiak	426	468	- 13	90%	110%
Kotzebue	326	331	- 11	90%	102%
Nome	354	377	- 12	97%	106%
Palmer	1000	936	- 11	78%	94%
Sitka	347	310	+ 11	101%	89%
Valdez	102	69	- 3	67%	68%
Wrangell/(1) Petersburg	189	188	+ 11	113%	99%
TOTALS	19605	18505	- 7	89%	94%

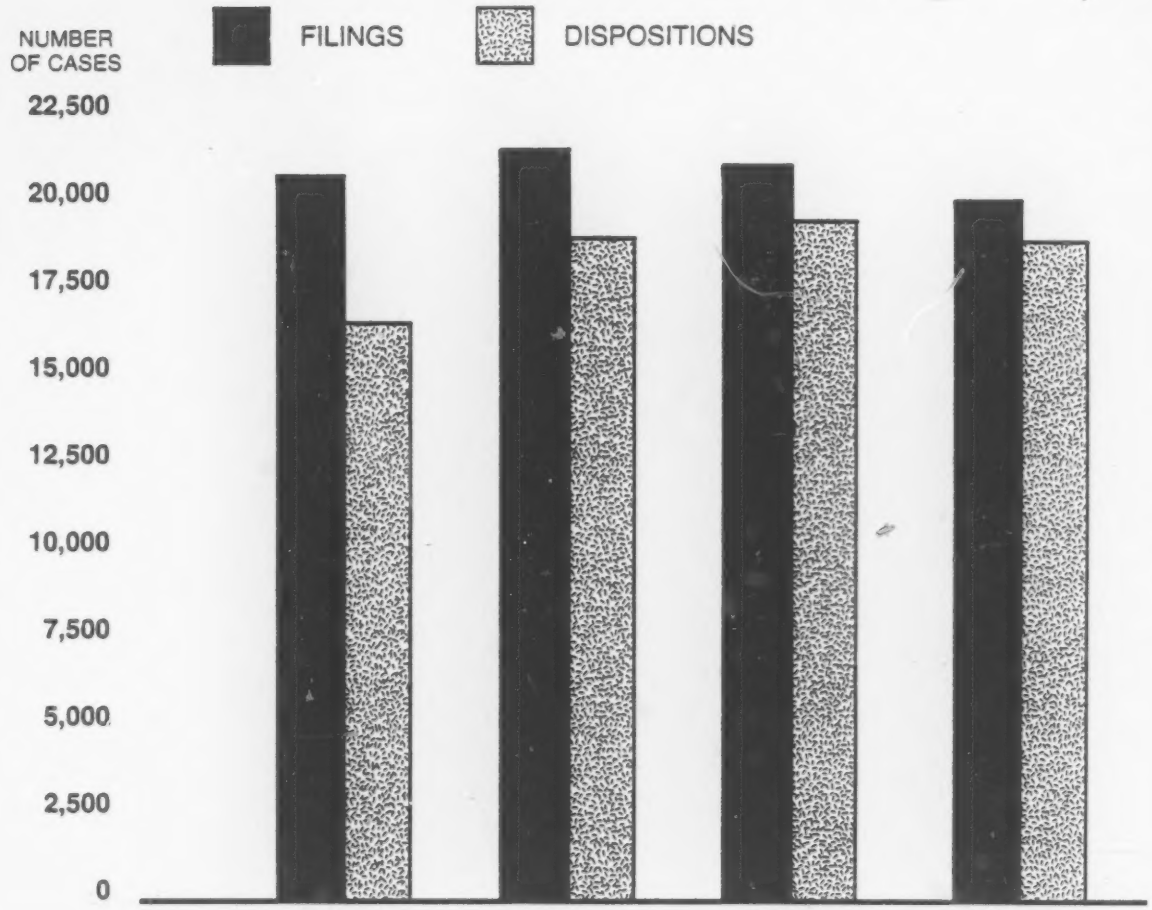
BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2326	2121	- 2	87%	91%
Second	988	1030	- 6	100%	104%
Third	12975	12318	- 7	82%	95%
Fourth	3316	3036	- 10	111%	92%

(1) Wrangell & Petersburg operate a combined superior court but separate district courts.

TABLE III

SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS
FY 84 - FY 87



	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
Filings	20,460	21,626	21,071	19,605
Dispositions	15,948	18,561	18,706	18,505

Table III shows changes in superior court filings and dispositions since FY 84. Total filings have decreased by 4% and total dispositions have increased by 16%. The decrease in filings is probably a result of recent increases in district court civil monetary jurisdiction as well as expanded district court jurisdiction regarding domestic violence cases.

Table IV analyzes the types of cases filed in superior court during FY 87. The largest category of superior court cases continues to be domestic relations, with 39% of total case filings.

Within the general category of domestic relations, domestic violence cases make up 28% of the domestic relations workload and approximately 11% of the overall superior court workload. Domestic violence cases decreased by 12% over FY 86 in the superior court because they can now be handled in district court.

Felony case filings remained about the same as last year. The 44% increase over FY 84 is the result of the change in reporting procedures implemented in FY 86. All felony cases are counted as superior court cases and included only in superior court statistics.

TABLE IV

SUPERIOR COURTS
CASELOAD COMPOSITION FY 87

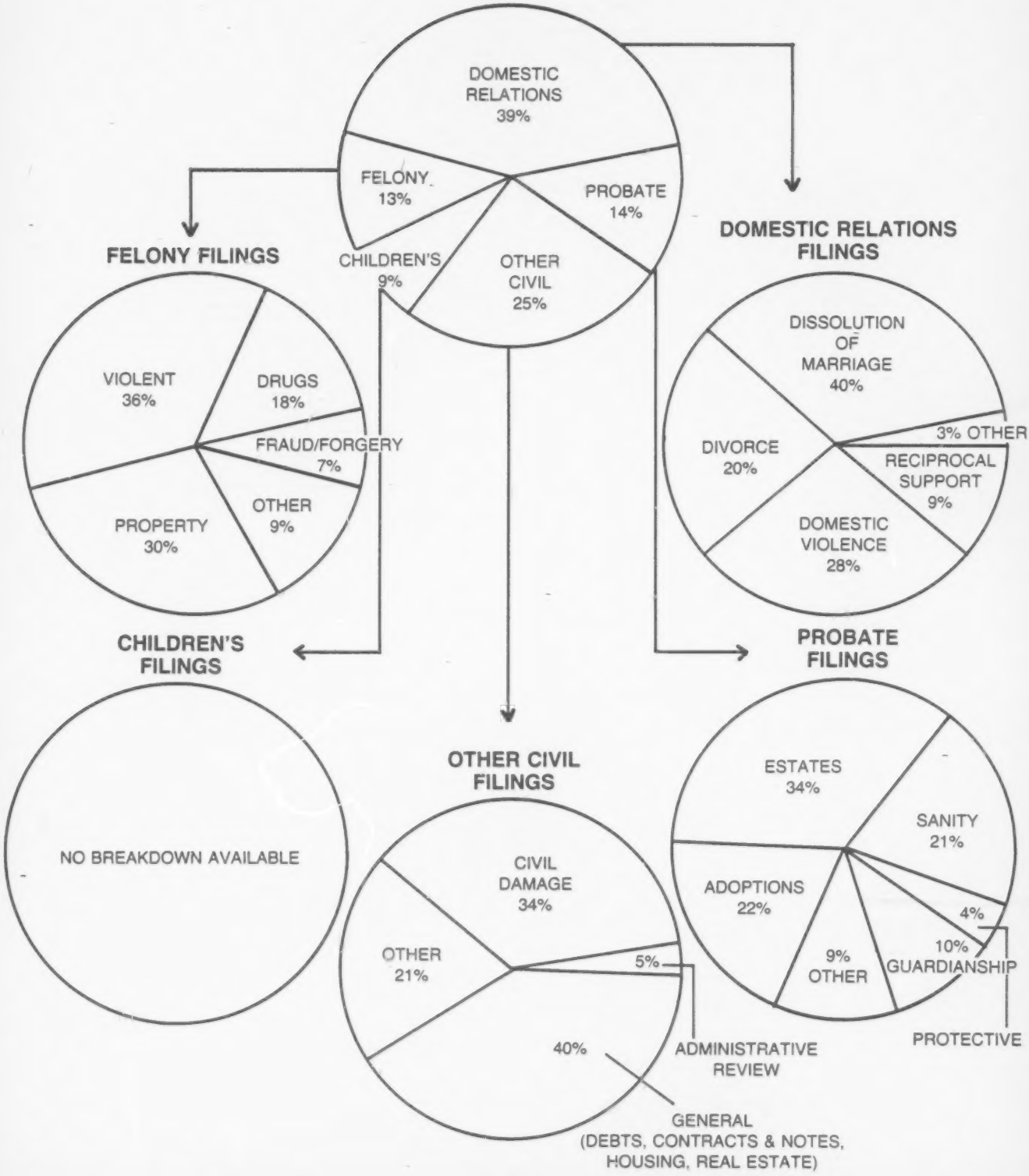
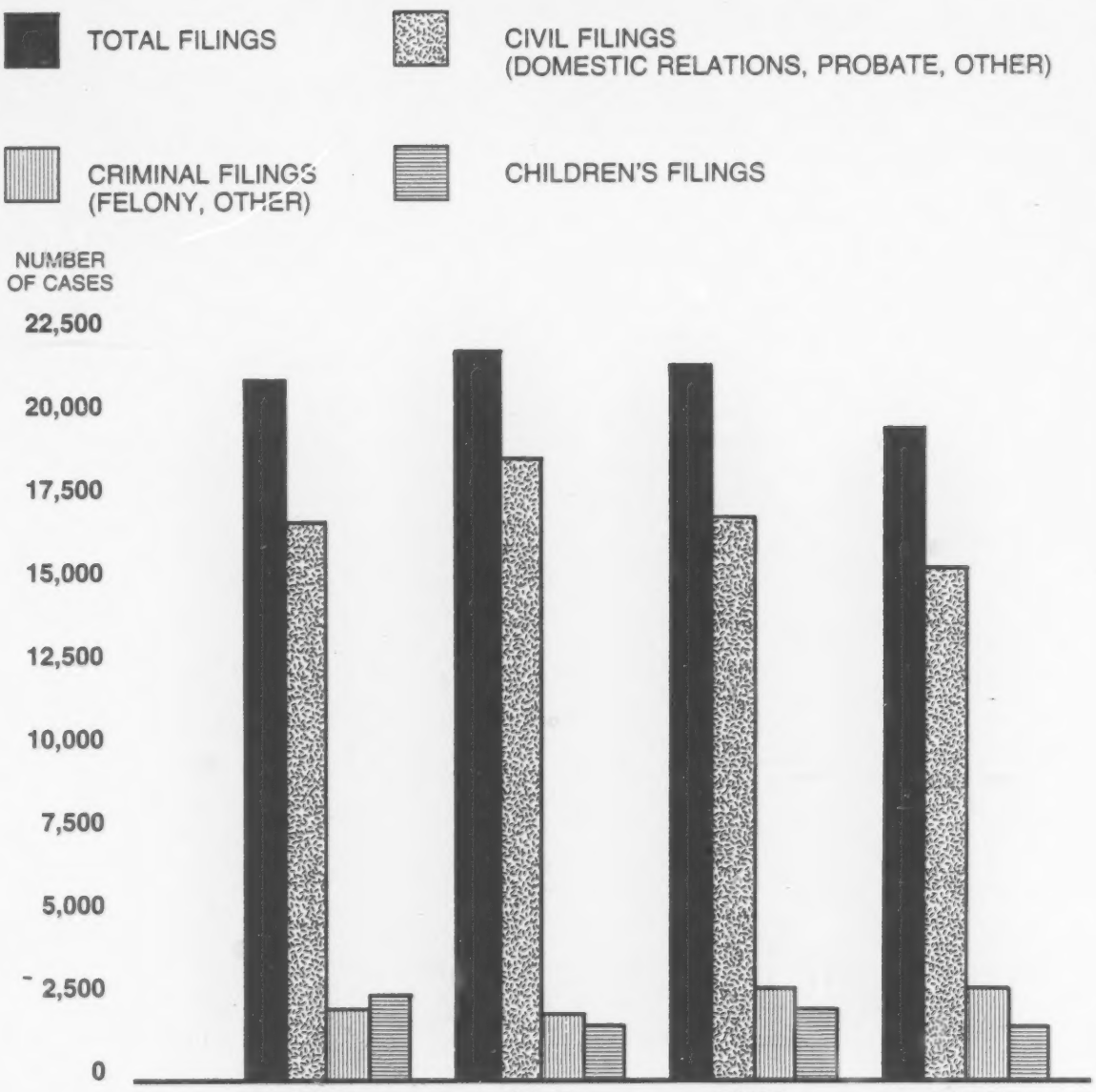


Table V shows the general composition of cases filed in superior courts since FY 84 based on the major categories of civil, criminal and children's proceedings.

Since FY 84, total civil case filings have decreased by 9% and criminal (felony) case filings have increased by 44%.

TABLE V
SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF CASELOAD
FY 84 - FY 87

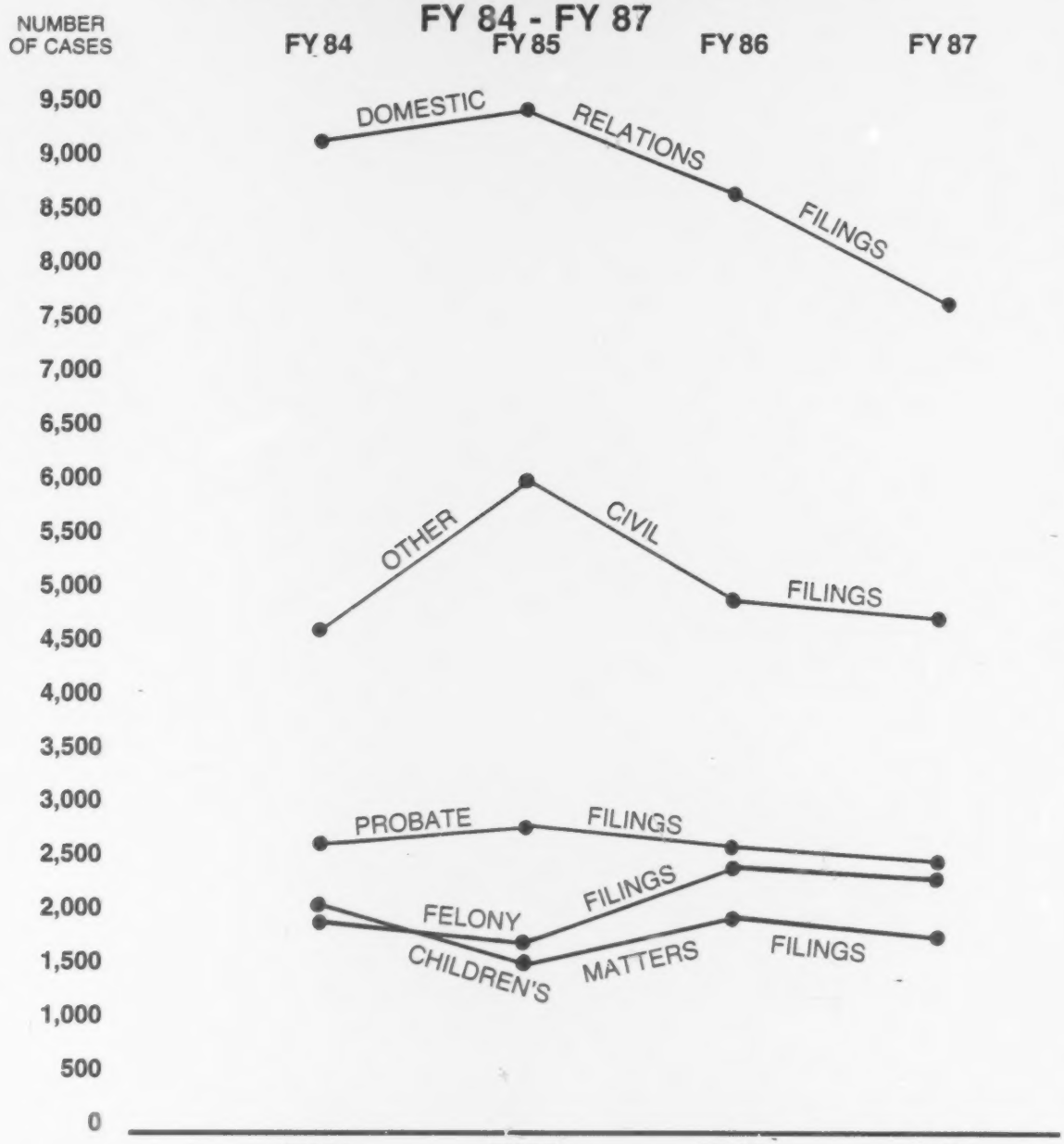


	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
Civil Filings	16,630	18,315	16,506	15,168
Criminal Filings	1,846	1,782	2,658	2,661
Children's Filings	1,984	1,529 *	1,907	1,776
Total Filings	20,460	21,626	21,071	19,605

* Plus 164 late filings.

Table VI plots the changes in number of case filings for specific case types since FY 84. Case volume has been leveling out over the past few years for most categories. The drop in domestic relations filings is due to a change in the jurisdiction of the district court which allows the filing of a domestic violence case in either district court or superior court.

TABLE VI
SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FY 84 - FY 87



	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
Domestic Rel.	9,102	9,408	8,703	7,637
Other Civil	4,748	5,996	5,000	4,857
Probate	2,780	2,911	2,803	2,674
Felony	1,846	1,782	2,658	2,661
Children's	1,984	1,529 *	1,907	1,776

* Plus 164 late filings.

DISTRICT COURT

Jurisdiction

In criminal matters, the district court has jurisdiction over state misdemeanor violations and violations of ordinances of political subdivisions. Prior to July 1, 1985, the district court could hear civil cases valued up to $10,000 or up to $15,000 in motor vehicle cases. Effective July 1, 1985, civil case jurisdiction in district courts increased to $25,000. Also during FY 86, the district court was given authority to hear domestic violence cases. (Effective September 3, 1987, civil jurisdiction of the district court increased to $35,000.)

Magistrate posts have been created in the smaller, generally rural areas of the state. They have also been established in metropolitan areas to handle routine matters and to ease the workload of the district court.

In criminal matters, magistrates may give judgment of conviction upon a plea of guilty to any state misdemeanor, may try state misdemeanor cases if the defendant waives the right to a district court judge, and may hear municipal ordinance violations without consent of the accused. Magistrates may hear formal civil cases and small claim cases that involve amounts up to a $5,000 maximum. Magistrates have emergency authority in children's matters.[1]

FY 87 Caseload - District Courts

District court statistics are separated into two categories: high and low volume courts. There are approximately 40 magistrates in locations that are identified as lower volume courts.

During FY 87, the statewide caseload in district courts remained about the same as FY 86. Non-traffic case filings as well as traffic filings increased by only .2% over FY 86. Table VII summarizes caseload statistics for district court locations in fiscal year 1987.

Special Note: Traffic Cases

Because traffic citation cases are not reported to the administrative office until final disposition, the number of filings for traffic matters in a year understates the court's actual workload. Whenever filings data is required to assess the overall workload of the courts, traffic disposition data has been substituted for traffic filing data.

Special Note: Felony Cases

Prior to the 1986 annual report, felony case filings were listed for district courts and also for superior courts.

District courts often create case files and hold initial custody/bail hearings for felony defendants, but do not have the jurisdiction to accept pleas or otherwise deal with felony matters. These "district court felonies" usually resulted in double counting felony cases (once in district court and once in superior court). In FY 86, felony cases were only counted as superior court cases. While this policy does deny some credit for work performed in the district courts, it enables court system case filing statistics to be more comparable to statistics compiled by other justice agencies to determine the actual number of felony cases initiated each year. All multi-year tables and charts in this report have been revised to delete all district court felony data from prior year statistics. This allows multi-year comparisons that are based on the same caseload composition.

[1] For more information about district court and magistrate jurisdiction, see Profile, supra.

TABLE VII
DISTRICT COURTS
CASELOAD SUMMARY FY 87
7/1/86 - 6/30/87

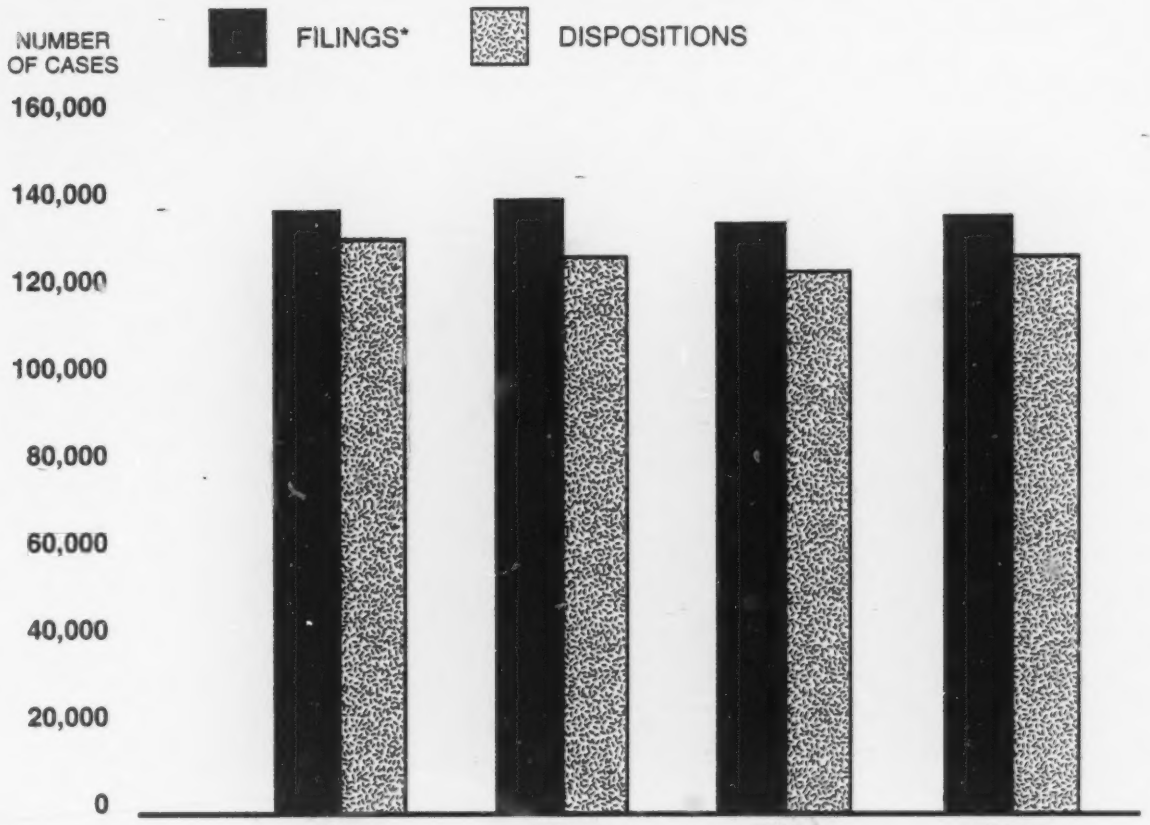
Court Location	Non Traffic Filings	% Change From FY86	(1) Traffic Filings	% Change From FY86	Total Filings	% Change From FY86	Ratio Disposed to Filed FY86	Ratio Disposed to Filed FY87
Anchorage	23,062	+ 2%	45,962	-	69,024	+.5%	89%	91%
Barrow	349	-28%	245	+ 4%	594	-18%	80%	114%
Bethel	866	-22%	517	-32%	1,383	-26%	95%	99%
Cordova	389	- 1%	63	-39%	452	- 9%	84%	87%
Craig	574	+15%	346	+65%	920	+30%	89%	85%
Delta Jct.	180	-20%	400	+24%	580	+ 6%	87%	96%
Dillingham	517	-11%	167	-13%	684	-12%	88%	98%
Fairbanks	6,455	+11%	9,870	+ 9%	16,325	+10%	106%	97%
Glennallen	277	-12%	266	+24%	543	+ 3%	94%	95%
Healy	110	+13%	677	- 1%	787	+.6%	98%	97%
Homer	1,121	+ 9%	909	-15%	2,030	- 3%	88%	90%
Juneau	3,225	-14%	3,240	-23%	6,465	-19%	92%	95%
Kenai	2,486	- 7%	4,185	-16%	6,671	-12%	98%	103%
Ketchikan	1,853	+13%	1,488	-35%	3,341	-15%	96%	99%
Kodiak	993	- 6%	2,568	+47%	3,561	+27%	100%	100%
Kotzebue	804	+ 6%	184	- 3%	988	+ 5%	103%	94%
Nome	533	-28%	236	-17%	769	-25%	101%	110%
Palmer	3,278	+.1%	7,879	+21%	11,157	+14%	95%	96%
Petersburg	363	-13%	146	-46%	509	-26%	104%	102%
Seward	726	+12%	1,366	-20%	2,092	-11%	94%	96%
Sitka	857	+25%	1,042	+ 5%	1,906	+13%	96%	96%
Tok	318	+35%	514	-.6%	832	+10%	96%	99%
Unalaska	315	+16%	188	+144%	503	+45%	82%	87%
Valdez	381	+ 9%	183	- 2%	568	+ 6%	88%	86%
Wrangell	342	-23%	276	+39%	618	- 4%	98%	101%
Subtotal	50,374	+.4%	82,924	-.1%	133,298	+.1%	93%	94%
Lower Volume Courts	2,665	- 3%	1,025	+31%	3,690	+ 4%	88%	81%
TOTALS	53,039	+.2%	83,949	+.2%	136,988	+.2%	93%	98%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT INCLUDING SERVICE AREAS

FIRST	7,892	- 4%	6,818	-18%	14,710	-11%	93%	94%
SECOND	1,995	-12%	666	- 6%	2,661	-11%	103%	103%
THIRD	34,155	+.7%	63,820	+1.5%	97,975	+ 1%	91%	93%
FOURTH	8,997	+ 4%	12,645	+ 7%	21,642	+ 6%	103%	96%

(1) Traffic case dispositions are used as filings in district court.

TABLE VIII
DISTRICT COURTS
(High and Low Volume)
SUMMARY OF FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS
FY 84 - FY 87



	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
Filings	139,497	140,637	136,665	136,988
Dispositions	133,094	128,065	126,997	127,989

*Traffic case dispositions are a more accurate indicator of actual workload than traffic filings. Therefore, traffic case dispositions are used for both filing and disposition data above. For all other case types, filings data were used as indicated.

As shown in Table VIII, total district court filings have remained the same since FY 86, while total dispositions have increased by 1%.

Table IX analyzes the composition of cases filed in higher volume district courts during FY 87. Traffic citations were the largest category of district court cases, accounting for 62% of the total caseload. The 38% of the caseload that was non-traffic cases was comprised of 51% criminal cases and 49% civil cases.

In FY 87, misdemeanor cases represent 51% of the non-traffic caseload and approximately 20% of the total district court caseload. Approximately 30% of all misdemeanor cases involve driving while intoxicated (DWI). Statewide, misdemeanor case filings increased by 4% in FY 87.

TABLE IX

DISTRICT COURTS (High Volume Courts)
CASELOAD COMPOSITION FY 87

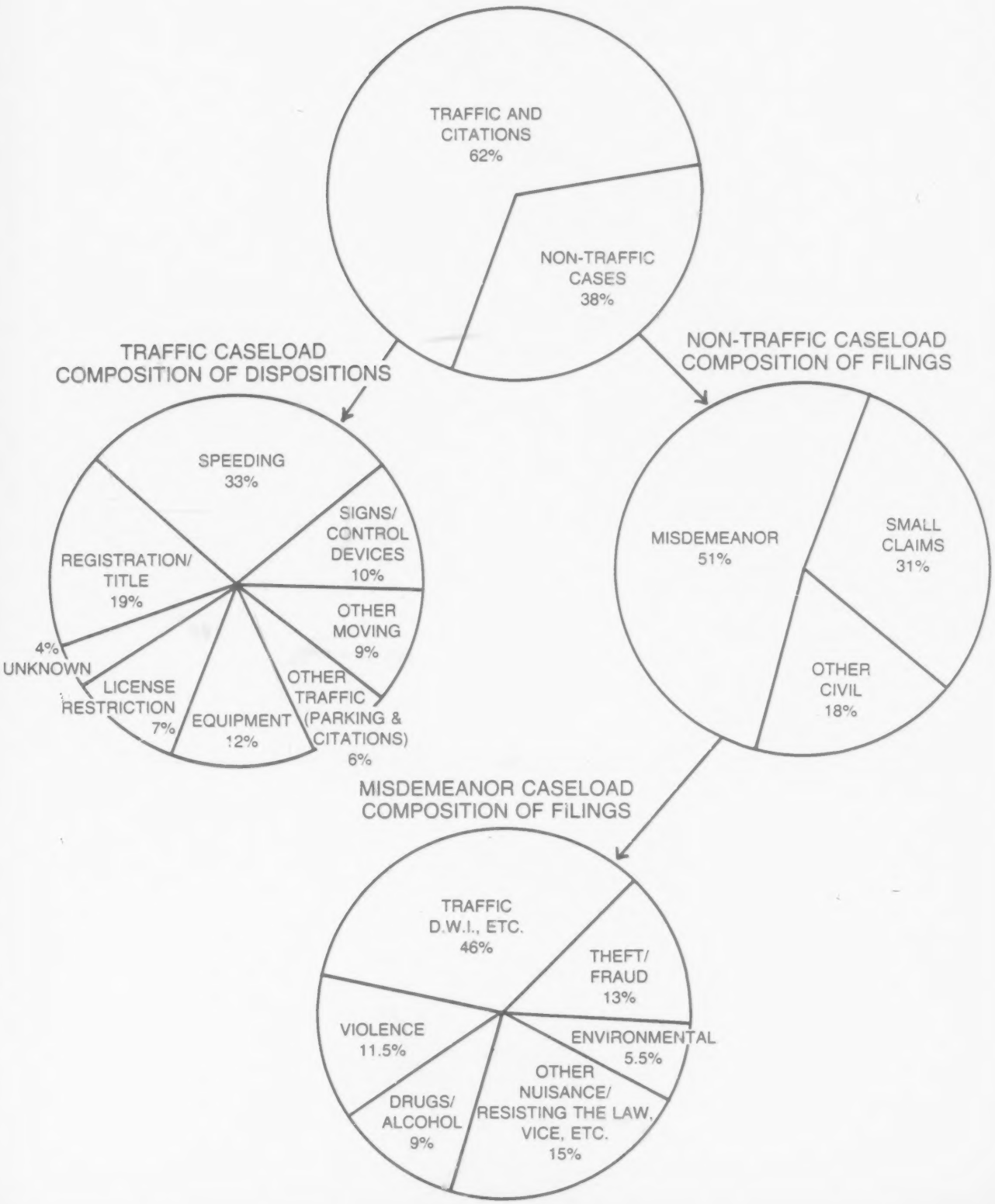
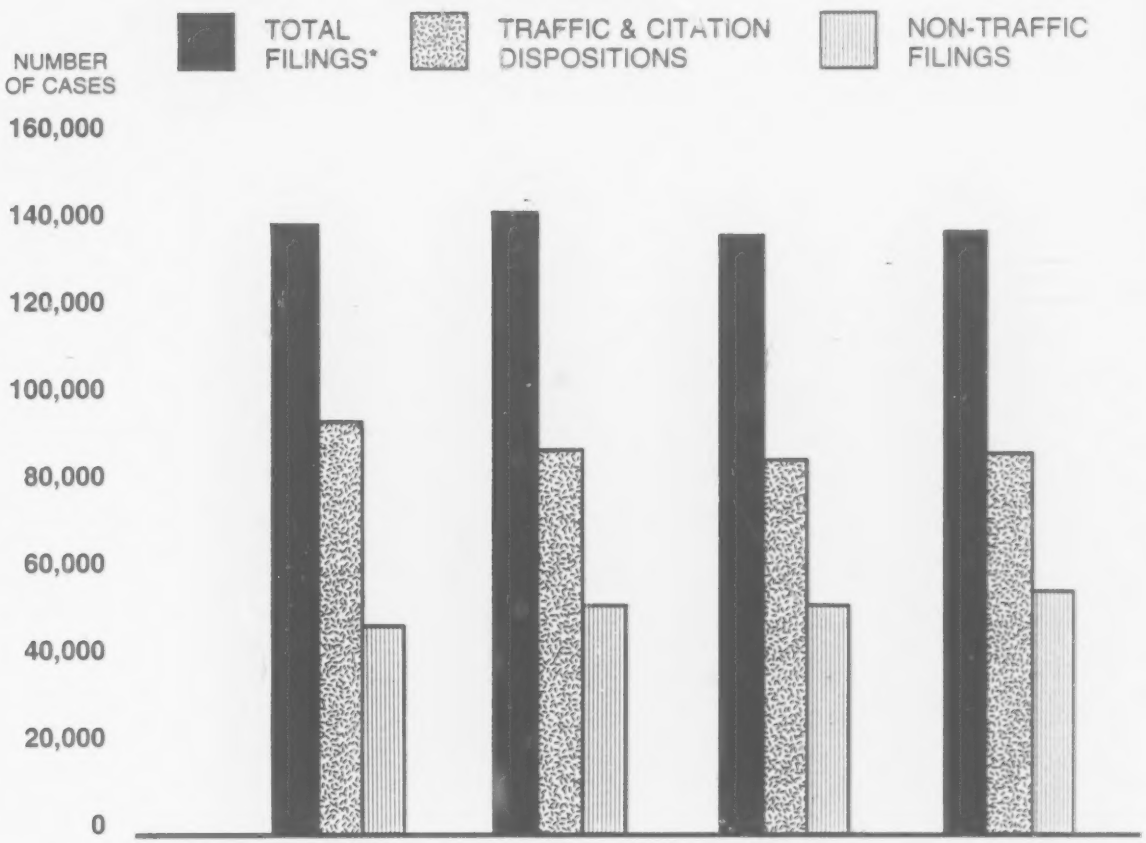


TABLE X
DISTRICT COURTS
(High and Low Volume)
SUMMARY OF CASELOAD
FY 84 - FY 87



	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
Traffic Dispositions*	94,882	88,777	83,744	83,949
Non-Traffic Filings	44,615	51,860	52,921	53,039
Total Caseload	139,497	140,637	136,665	136,988

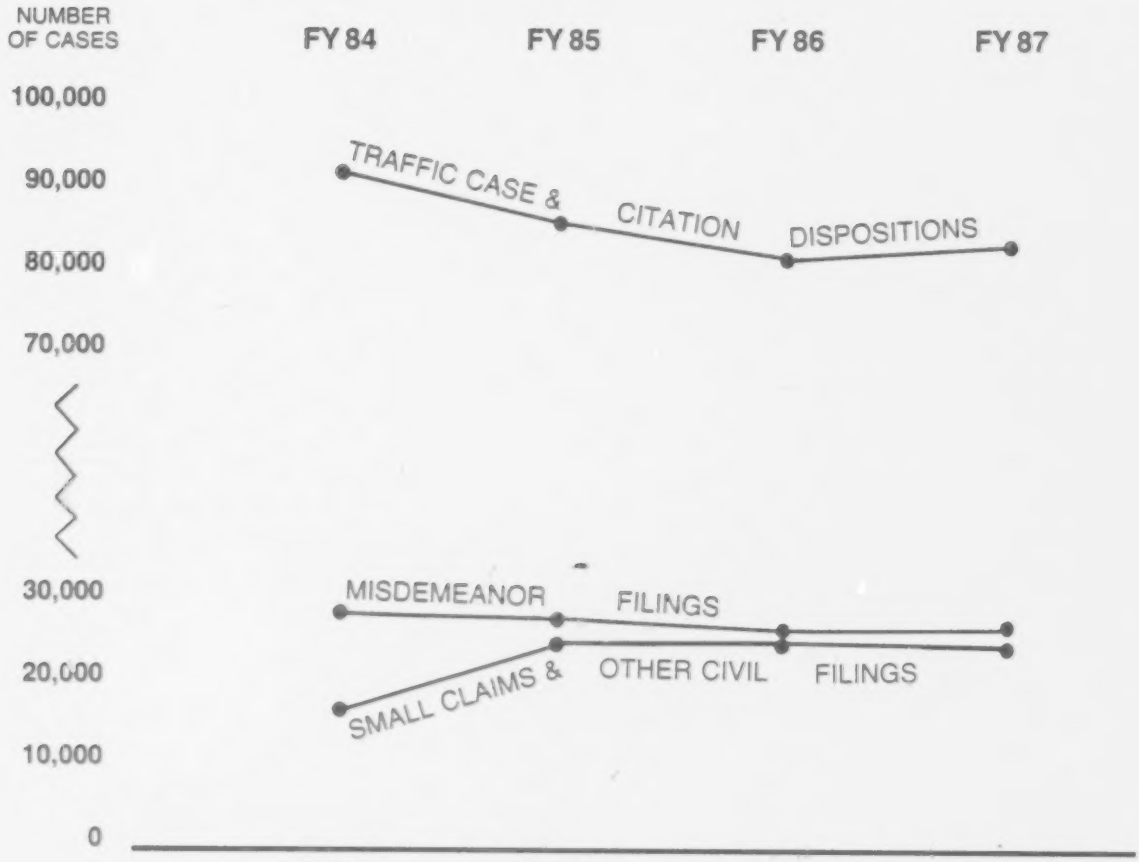
*Traffic case dispositions are a more accurate indicator of actual workload than traffic filings. For non-traffic cases, actual filings data were used.

Table X shows that in the major categories of traffic and non-traffic matters, non-traffic matters have increased steadily for a total increase of 19% since FY 84. Traffic citation filings have fluctuated each year but have been about the same the past two years.

Misdemeanor filings in district courts have fluctuated over the last four years but are now 4% higher than FY 86 filings. Civil case filings (small claims and other civil categories) have significantly increased each year for an overall 58% increase since FY 84. With increased monetary jurisdiction in civil cases, the district courts are dealing not only with increasing numbers of cases but also with increasing case complexity. Domestic violence cases are also being heard in district court.

TABLE XI

DISTRICT COURTS
(High and Low Volume)
SUMMARY OF FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FY 84 - FY 87



	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
Traffic Dispositions .	94,882	88,777	83,744	83,949
Misdemeanor Filings	28,587	27,814	26,593	27,783
Small Claims and Other Civil Filings ...	16,028	24,046	26,328	25,256
Total Filings ...	139,497	140,637	136,665	136,988

Changes in filings since FY 84 for specific case types are noted in Table XI. Traffic citation cases have decreased by 12% since FY 84 but have remained about the same the past two years. Misdemeanor filings have fluctuated a little over the four-year period but show a 4% increase over FY 86. Civil (small claims and general civil cases) have increased by 58% since FY 84.

STATISTICS

FOREWORD

This statistical supplement is designed primarily for research applications. It is comprised of six sections dealing with appellate and trial court statistics. Appellate court statistics are subdivided into sections on the supreme court and court of appeals. Trial court statistics are comprised of sections on superior courts, higher volume district courts and lower volume district courts.

The administrative office is continuing a multi-year program (begun in 1982) to revise its data collection and data processing capabilities and procedures. As the transition from the older system to newer procedures and equipment progresses, the level of specificity that was contained in previous annual reports will be gradually reintroduced. Unfortunately, some lack of detailed data during this transition period is inevitable.

In FY 85 publication of data regarding the stage of disposition of cases closed out during the year was reinstated. In the trial court tables which follow, charts have been added which provide the reported number and types of trials and other types of dispositions for specific case types.

Any reader with questions, comments or suggestions about this statistical supplement is encouraged to contact:

Manager, Technical Operations
Office of the
Administrative Director
303 K Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Telephone: (907) 264-8211

INDEX TO STATISTICAL TABLES

Supreme Court

S - 3 Summary of Filings FY 85-FY 87
S - 3 Summary of Dispositions FY 85-FY 87
S - 4 Dispositions by Type of Disposition FY 87
S - 4 Cases Pending as of June 30, 1987
S - 5 Reasons for Cases Pending

Court of Appeals

S - 9 Summary of Filings FY 85-FY 87
S - 9 Summary of Dispositions FY 85-FY 87
S - 10 Dispositions by Type of Disposition FY 87
S - 10 Cases Pending as of June 30, 1987
S - 11 Reasons for Cases Pending

Statewide Trial Court

S - 15 Alaska Population
S - 16 Alaska Courts Distribution of Population, Police and Lawyers
S - 17 Alaska Courts Authorized Judicial Positions
S - 18 Alaska Courts Authorized Personnel Positions
S - 19 Alaska Courts Operating Costs
S - 20 Alaska Courts Distribution of Population, Costs and Judges
S - 21 Alaska Courts Filings FY 87
S - 22 Alaska Courts Dispositions FY 87

Superior Court

S - 25 Superior Court - Caseload FY 87
S - 27 Summary of Filings by Court FY 84-FY 87
S - 28 Composition of Filings FY 87
S - 29 Summary of Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 30 Felony Case Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 31 Felony Case Composition of Filings FY 87
S - 32 Felony Case Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 33 Felony Case Disposition Stages FY 87
S - 34 Probate Case Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 35 Probate Case Composition of Filings FY 87
S - 36 Probate Case Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 37 Domestic Relations Case Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 38 Domestic Relations Case Composition of Filings FY 87
S - 39 Domestic Relations Case Dispositions FY 84-FY 87

S - 40 Domestic Relations Case Disposition Stages FY 87
S - 41 Other Civil Case Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 42 Other Civil Case Composition of Filings FY 87
S - 43 Other Civil Case Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 44 Other Civil Case Disposition Stages FY 87
S - 45 Children's Matters Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 46 Children's Matters Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 47 Children's Matters Formal Dispositions FY 87

District Court (Higher Volume)

S - 51 Higher Volume District Courts - Caseload FY 87
S - 53 District Court Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 54 Composition of Filings FY 87
S - 55 District Court Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 56 Summary of Non-Traffic Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 57 Summary of Non-Traffic Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 58 Misdemeanor Case Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 59 Misdemeanor Cases Composition of Filings FY 87
S - 60 Misdemeanor Cases Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 61 Misdemeanor Cases Disposition Stages FY 87
S - 62 Small Claims Case Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 63 Small Claims Case Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 64 Small Claims Cases Disposition Stages FY 87
S - 65 Other Civil Case Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 66 Other Civil Cases Composition of Filings FY 87
S - 67 Other Civil Cases Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 68 Other Civil Cases Disposition Stages FY 87
S - 69 Traffic Cases Dispositions FY 84-FY 87
S - 70 Traffic Cases Composition of Disposition FY 87
S - 71 Children's Matters Filings FY 84-FY 87
S - 72 Children's Matters Dispositions FY 84-FY 87

District Court (Lower Volume)

S - 75 Lower Volume District Courts - Caseload FY 87
S - 77 Summary of FY 87 Filings by District
S - 77 Summary of FY 87 Dispositions by District
S - 78 First Judicial District Filings FY 87
S - 78 First Judicial District Dispositions FY 87
S - 79 Second Judicial District Filings FY 87
S - 79 Second Judicial District Dispositions FY 87
S - 80 Third Judicial District Filings FY 87
S - 80 Third Judicial District Dispositions FY 87
S - 81 Fourth Judicial District Filings FY 87
S - 81 Fourth Judicial District Dispositions FY 87

SUPREME COURT

SUPREME COURT
SUMMARY OF FILINGS

FY85 - FY87

TYPE OF CASE	FY85	FY86	FY87	% INCREASE FY86 to FY87
Appeals:				
Civil	311	295	356	+21
Petitions for Hearing - Criminal and Sentence	101	173	107	-38
Petitions for Review	92	140	112	-21
Original Applications	23	23	12	-48
TOTAL	528	631	587	-7

SUPREME COURT
SUMMARY OF DISPOSITIONS

FY85 - FY87

TYPE OF CASE	FY85	FY86	FY87	% INCREASE FY86 to FY87
Appeals:				
Civil	273	328	278	-15
Petitions for Hearing - Criminal and Sentence	93	163	120	-26
Petitions for Review	104	127	111	-13
Original Applications	14	27	13	-56
TOTAL	484	645	522	-19

SUPREME COURT
DISPOSITIONS BY TYPE OF DISPOSITION

FY87

TYPE OF CASE	DISPOSITION BY		TOTAL
	MERIT	NOT ON MERIT	
Appeals:			
Civil	162	116	278
Petitions for Hearing -	35	85	120
Criminal and Sentence			
Petitions for Review	16	95	111
Original Applications	7	6	13
TOTAL	220	302	522
% OF TOTAL	42	58	100

SUPREME COURT
CASES PENDING AS OF JUNE 30, 1987

TYPE OF CASE	FY85	FY86	FY87	% INCREASE FY86 - FY87
Appeals:				
Civil	331	303	379	+25
Petitions for Hearing - Criminal	36	47	34	-28
and Sentence				
Petitions for Review	23	32	35	+9
Original Applications	15	8	7	-12
TOTAL	404	390	455	+17

SUPREME COURT
REASON FOR CASES PENDING

JUNE 30, 1987

TYPE OF CASE	CASE AWAITING							STAYED	TOTAL
	DRAFT OPINION CIRCULATING	AWAITING DRAFT OPINION	RECORDS	BRIEFS	ARGU-MENT	DECISION	Rehear-ing/ Record Return		
Appeals:									
Civil	46	83	65	123	31	-	10	21	379
Criminal	1	-	-	18	2	12	1	-	34
Petitions for Review	5	5	-	18	1	5	-	1	35
Original Applications	3	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	7
TOTAL	55	88	65	162	34	18	11	22	455
% OF TOTAL	12	19	14	36	8	4	2	5	100

COURT OF APPEALS

COURT OF APPEALS
SUMMARY OF FILINGS

FY85 - FY87

TYPE OF CASE	FY85	FY86	FY87	% INCREASE FY86 to FY87
Appeals:				
Merit	287	346	332	-4
Sentence	158	158	137	-15
Petitions for Review	60	83	54	-35
Original Applications	1	1	0	-100
TOTAL	506	588	523	-11

COURT OF APPEALS
SUMMARY OF DISPOSITIONS

FY85 - FY87

TYPE OF CASE	FY85	FY86	FY87	% INCREASE FY86 to FY87
Appeals:				
Merit	283	381	293	-23
Sentence	122	206	135	-34
Petitions for Review	55	99	54	-45
Original Applications	1	2	1	-50
TOTAL	461	688	483	-30

COURT OF APPEALS
DISPOSITIONS BY TYPE OF DISPOSITION

FY87

TYPE OF CASE	DISPOSITION BY		TOTAL
	MERITS	NOT ON MERITS	
Appeals:			
Merit	240	53	293
Sentence	111	24	135
Petitions for Review	7	47	54
Original Applications	1	-	1
TOTAL	359	124	483
% OF TOTAL	74	26	100

COURT OF APPEALS
CASES PENDING AS OF JUNE 30, 1987

TYPE OF CASE	FY85	FY86	FY87	% INCREASE FY86 - FY87
Appeals:				
Merit	342	306	331	+8
Sentence	124	73	88	+21
Petitions for Review	19	8	8	-
Original Applications	1	1	-	-100
TOTAL	486	388	427	+10

COURT OF APPEALS
REASON FOR CASES PENDING
JUNE 30, 1987

TYPE OF CASE	CASE AWAITING							STAYED AND/OR REMAND	TOTAL
	DRAFT DISPOSITION CIRCULATING	AWAITING DRAFT DISPOSITION	RECORDS	BRIEFS	SUBMISSION	DECISION	Rehear-ing		
Appeals:									
Merit	25	41	124	112	-	-	8	21	331
Sentence	19	28	11	21	-	-	4	5	88
Petitions for Review	1	0	-	7	-	-	-	-	8
Original Applications	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	45	69	135	140	-	-	12	26	427
% OF TOTAL	10	16	32	33	-	-	3	6	100

ALASKA POPULATION

FY 87

LOCATION	POPULATION			% INCREASE TO	% OF STATEWIDE TOTAL
	CENSUS 1980	ESTIMATE 1987*	INCREASE		
Anchorage	173017	253568	80551	46.6	46.6
Barrow	4199	5602	1403	33.4	1.0
Bethel	13354	13326	-28	-.2	2.5
Cordova	2241	2502	261	11.6	.5
Dillingham	4616	5385	769	16.7	1.0
Fairbanks	53983	66737	12754	26.6	12.3
Glennallen	501	544	43	8.5	.1
Homer	2209	9573	7364	333.3	1.8
Juneau	19528	24639	5111	26.2	4.5
Kenai	19785	26379	6594	33.3	4.8
Ketchikan	11316	13217	1901	16.8	2.4
Kodiak	9939	12891	2952	29.7	2.4
Kotzebue	3478	4134	656	18.9	.8
Nome	5229	6581	1352	25.9	1.2
Palmer	17766	31002	13336	75.1	5.7
Petersburg	3249	3699	450	13.9	.7
Seward	2809	3372	563	20.0	.6
Sitka	7803	7887	84	1.0	1.5
Tok	1702	1958	256	15.0	3.6
Unalaska	3263	3590	327	10.0	.7
Valdez	5408	5765	357	6.6	1.1
Wrangell	2363	2611	248	10.5	.5
OTHER (Low Vol.)	32723	38941	6218	19.0	7.2
TOTAL	400481	543903	143422	35.8	100%

* Alaska Department of Labor Population Est. October 1986

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	53794	63256	9462	17.6	11.6
Second	15567	19744	4177	26.8	3.6
Third	247830	361478	113648	45.8	66.5
Fourth	83290	99425	16135	19.4	18.3

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, POLICE AND LAWYERS

FY 87

LOCATION	POPULATION	TOTAL NUMBER POLICE §	POLICE PER THOUSAND POPULATION 3÷2×1000	TOTAL NUMBERS LAWYERS	LAWYERS PER THOUSAND POPULATION 5÷2×1000
Anchorage	253568	357	1.4	1243	4.9
Barrow	5602	39	6.9	9	1.6
Bethel	13326	20	1.5	18	1.4
Cordova	2502	9	3.6	3	1.2
Dillingham	5385	8	1.5	7	1.3
Fairbanks	66737	89	1.3	187	2.8
Glennallen	544	4	7.4	0	-
Homer	9573	14	1.5	11	1.1
Juneau	24639	49	1.9	198	8.0
Kenai	26379	43	1.6	38	1.4
Ketchikan	13217	27	2.0	41	3.1
Kodiak	12891	28	2.2	24	1.9
Kotzebue	4134	10	2.4	6	1.5
Nome	6581	14	2.1	9	1.4
Palmer	31002	* 36	1.2	45	1.5
Petersburg	3699	9	2.4	2	.5
Seward	3372	9	2.7	0	-
Sitka	7887	19	2.4	17	2.2
Tok	1958	3	1.5	0	-
Unalaska	3590	8	2.2	0	-
Valdez	5765	23	3.9	2	.3
Wrangell	2611	7	2.7	3	1.1
TOTAL	504962	835	1.6	1863	3.7

* Plus 17 Reserves

§ Numbers Used From State Troopers Are Authorized Positions Not Filled Positions

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	52053	111	2.1	261	5.0
Second	16317	63	3.9	24	1.5
Third	354571	539	1.5	1373	3.9
Fourth	82021	112	1.4	205	2.5

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
AUTHORIZED JUDICIAL POSITIONS

FY 87

LOCATION	SUPERIOR COURT	DISTRICT COURT	MAGI-STRATES	MASTERS	TOTAL	% OF STATE-WIDE TOTAL
Anchorage	13	9	5	4	31	27.7
Barrow	1		1		2	1.8
Bethel	1		1		2	1.8
Cordova			1		1	.9
Dillingham			1		1	.9
Fairbanks	4	4	2	1	11	9.8
Glennallen			1		1	.9
Homer		1			1	.9
Juneau	2	1			3	2.7
Kenai	1		1		2	1.8
Ketchikan	1	1			2	1.8
Kodiak	1		1		2	1.8
Kotzebue	1		1		2	1.8
Nome	1		1		2	1.8
Palmer	1	1	1		3	2.7
Petersburg			1		1	.9
Seward			1		1	.9
Sitka	1		1		2	1.8
Tok			1		1	.9
Unalaska			1		1	.9
Valdez	1				1	.9
Wrangell	1		1		2	1.8
OTHER (Low Vol.)			37		37	33.0
TOTAL	30	17	60	5	112	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	5	2	11	0	18	16.1
Second	3	0	11	0	14	12.5
Third	17	11	19	4	51	45.5
Fourth	5	4	19	1	29	25.9

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL POSITIONS

FY 87

LOCATION	POSITIONS BY RANGE					% OF STATEWIDE TOTAL
	BELOW 10	10 THROUGH 12	13 THOURGH 16	OVER 16	TOTAL	
Anchorage	35	104	32	7	178	45.8
Barrow	1	4	1		6	1.5
Bethel	1	4	1		6	1.5
Cordova		1			1	.3
Dillingham	1	1			2	.5
Fairbanks	10	52	12	4	78	20.1
Glennallen	1	1			2	.5
Homer	1	1	1		3	.8
Juneau	4	11	4	1	20	5.1
Kenai	3	10	1	1	15	3.9
Ketchikan		10	3	2	15	3.9
Kodiak	3	4	2		9	2.3
Kotzebue	2	3	1		6	1.5
Nome	1	4	1		6	1.5
Palmer	5	7	2		14	3.6
Petersburg	1	1			2	.5
Seward		2			2	.5
Sitka	1	4	2		7	1.8
Tok		1			1	.3
Unalaska		1			1	.3
Valdez	1	2			3	.8
Wrangell	1	2			3	.8
OTHER (Low Vol.)	3	6			9	2.3
TOTAL	75	236	63	15	389	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	8	30	9	3	50	12.9
Second	4	11	3	0	18	4.6
Third	51	135	38	8	232	59.6
Fourth	12	60	13	4	89	22.9

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
OPERATING COSTS
(THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

FY 87

LOCATION	PERSONNEL	OTHER	TOTAL	% OF STATEWIDE TOTAL	DOLLAR COST PER CASE FILED	
					ALL FILINGS	LESS TRAFFIC FILINGS
Anchorage	9132.7	1602.3	10735.0	38.0	135	465
Barrow	452.7	884.6	1337.3	4.7	1483	3832
Bethel	485.6	220.8	706.4	2.5	384	816
Cordova	55.0	112.8	167.8	0.6	371	431
Dillingham	121.9	137.5	259.4	0.9	379	502
Fairbanks	4220.1	789.3	5009.4	17.7	261	776
Glennallen	111.4	11.1	122.5	0.4	226	442
Homer	186.6	92.6	279.2	1.0	138	249
Juneau	1114.5	212.4	1326.9	4.7	177	411
Kenai	770.6	149.8	920.4	3.3	120	370
Ketchikan	933.2	196.8	1130.0	4.0	277	610
Kodiak	498.2	94.7	592.9	2.1	149	597
Kotzebue	440.4	137.6	578.0	2.1	440	719
Nome	495.0	186.5	681.5	2.4	607	1279
Palmer	705.6	241.2	946.8	3.4	78	289
Petersburg	88.6	147.2	235.8	0.8	463	650
Seward	140.3	14.7	155.0	0.6	74	213
Sitka	483.6	55.6	539.2	1.9	239	629
Tok	105.6	59.8	165.4	0.6	199	520
Unalaska	104.2	65.1	169.3	0.6	337	537
Valdez	290.0	32.5	322.5	1.1	484	846
Wrangell	269.6	79.5	349.1	1.2	433	1021
OTHER (Low Vol.)	1127.6	374.2	1501.8	5.3	251	426
TOTAL	22333.0	5898.6	28231.6	100.0%	180	532

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	3232.0	779.5	4011.5	14.2	190	410
Second	1632.0	1288.5	2920.5	10.3	447	818
Third	12287.8	2644.3	14932.1	52.9	111	360
Fourth	5181.2	1186.3	6367.5	22.6	208	576

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, COSTS AND JUDGES

FY 87

LOCATION	PERCENTAGE OF STATEWIDE				
	POPULATION	OPERATING COSTS	JUDGES	CASE FILINGS	CASE DISPOSITION
Anchorage	46.6	38.0	27.7	50.7	49.5
Barrow	1.0	4.7	1.8	0.6	0.7
Bethel	2.5	2.5	1.8	1.2	1.2
Cordova	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.3
Dillingham	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.5
Fairbanks	12.3	17.7	9.8	12.3	19.4
Glennallen	0.1	0.4	0.9	0.3	0.4
Homer	1.8	1.0	0.9	1.3	1.2
Juneau	4.5	4.7	2.7	4.8	4.8
Kenai	4.8	3.3	1.8	4.8	5.3
Ketchikan	2.4	4.0	1.8	2.6	2.7
Kodiak	2.4	2.1	1.8	2.5	2.7
Kotzebue	0.8	2.1	1.8	0.8	0.9
Nome	1.2	2.4	1.8	0.7	0.8
Palmer	5.7	3.4	2.7	7.8	7.9
Petersburg	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.4
Seward	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.4
Sitka	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.4	1.5
Tok	3.6	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.6
Unalaska	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.3
Valdez	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.4	0.4
Wrangell	0.5	1.2	1.8	0.5	0.6
OTHER (Low Vol.)	7.2	5.3	33.0	3.8	3.5
TOTAL	100%	100.0%	100%	100%	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	11.6	14.2	16.1	10.9	10.9
Second	3.6	10.3	12.5	2.3	2.6
Third	66.5	52.9	45.5	70.9	70.3
Fourth	18.3	22.6	25.9	15.9	16.2

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
FILINGS

FY 87

LOCATION	SUPERIOR COURT	DISTRICT COURT	TOTAL	% OF STATE-WIDE TOTAL	FILINGS PER JUDGE
Anchorage	10422	69024	79446	50.7	2563
Barrow	308	594	902	.6	451
Bethel	458	1383	1841	1.2	921
Cordova		452	452	.3	452
Dillingham		684	684	.4	684
Fairbanks	2858	16325	19183	12.3	1744
Glennallen		543	543	.3	543
Homer		2030	2030	1.3	2030
Juneau	1045	6465	7510	4.8	2503
Kenai	1025	6671	7696	4.8	3848
Ketchikan	745	3341	4086	2.6	2043
Kodiak	426	3561	3987	2.5	1994
Kotzebue	326	988	1314	.8	657
Nome	354	769	1123	.7	562
Palmer	1000	11157	12157	7.8	4052
Petersburg	*	509	509	.3	509
Seward		2092	2092	1.3	2092
Sitka	347	1906	2253	1.4	1127
Tok		832	832	.5	832
Unalaska		503	503	.3	503
Valdez	102	564	666	.4	666
Wrangell *	189	618	807	.5	404
OTHER (Low Vol.)		5977	5977	3.8	162
TOTAL	19605	136988	156593	100%	1398

* Superior Court Wrangell/Petersburg

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2326	14710	17036	10.9	946
Second	988	2661	3649	2.3	261
Third	12975	97975	110950	70.9	2175
Fourth	3316	21642	24958	15.9	861

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
DISPOSITIONS

FY 87

LOCATION	SUPERIOR COURT	DISTRICT COURT	TOTAL	% OF STATE-WIDE TOTAL	DISPOSITIONS PER JUDGE
Anchorage	9854	62628	72482	49.5	2338
Barrow	322	677	999	.7	499
Bethel	403	1372	1775	1.2	888
Cordova		394	394	.3	394
Dillingham		669	669	.5	669
Fairbanks	2633	15762	18395	19.4	1672
Glennallen		514	514	.4	514
Homer		1817	1817	1.2	1817
Juneau	924	6169	7093	4.8	2364
Kenai	991	6838	7829	5.3	3915
Ketchikan	699	3312	4011	2.7	2006
Kodiak	468	3560	4028	2.7	2014
Kotzebue	331	930	1261	.9	631
Nome	377	844	1221	.8	611
Palmer	936	10671	11607	7.9	3869
Petersburg	*	520	520	.4	520
Seward		2002	2002	1.4	2002
Sitka	310	1828	2138	1.5	1069
Tok		828	828	.6	828
Unalaska		437	437	.3	437
Valdez	69	488	557	.4	557
Wrangell *	188	623	811	.6	406
OTHER (Low Vol.)		5106	5106	3.5	138
TOTAL	18505	127989	146494	100%	1308

* Superior Court Wrangell/Petersburg

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2121	13860	15981	10.9	888
Second	1030	2756	3786	2.6	270
Third	12318	90647	102965	70.3	2019
Fourth	3036	20726	23762	16.2	819

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURT

SUPERIOR COURT CASELOAD FY 1987

FY 87 statistics reflect a 7% decrease from FY 86 in superior court case filings. Superior courts reporting increases in FY 87 filings included Barrow (8%), Ketchikan (4%), Sitka (11%) and Wrangell/Petersburg (11%); Kenai and Valdez reported decreases of less than 7%.

Overall, superior courts reported a 1% decrease in case dispositions when compared with FY 86, but a 16% increase from FY 84. Five courts (Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak and Palmer) reported increases in dispositions over FY 86, Anchorage and Ketchikan both having 9% increases.

FELONY CASES

During FY 87, felony case filings statewide remained the same as FY 86. Seven of the fourteen superior courts showed significant (+10%) increases in felony filings, with Wrangell/Petersburg showing the greatest increase with 137%. However, four courts showed significant decreases, thus statistically neutralizing those increases.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES

Domestic relations case filings decreased by 12% over FY 86. Only Nome (2%), Sitka (27%) and Wrangell/Petersburg (4%) had increases. The number of divorce cases remained the same as FY 86. Dissolutions decreased slightly (3%), but child and spousal support cases decreased by 50%. Since domestic violence cases can now be filed in district court as well as superior court, the decrease in superior court domestic violence filings does not indicate a decrease in domestic violence cases.

PROBATE CASES

Probate case filings statewide decreased by 5% over FY 86 levels. Statewide dispositions of probate cases increased by 15%. Five courts had significant (+10%) increases in filings and seven courts had significant increases in dispositions. There was an 80% increase in the number of probate waiver cases filed in FY 87.

OTHER CIVIL MATTERS

Other civil case filings (civil damages, administrative review, contracts and notes, housing and real estate matters, etc.) decreased by 3% statewide in FY 87. Bethel, Fairbanks, Ketchikan and Sitka had significant increases in other civil filings. Anchorage levelled off with its FY 84 filings.

Other civil case dispositions increased by 29% from FY 86 levels. Anchorage had a 76% increase in dispositions. Kodiak, Kotzebue, Sitka and Valdez also had significant increases in other civil dispositions, while Barrow, Bethel, Fairbanks and Ketchikan all had significant decreases.

CHILDREN'S MATTERS

Filings of children's matters in superior courts decreased by 7% in FY 87. However, Kenai, Ketchikan and Valdez showed significant increases. Bethel showed a 91% decrease in children's filings, which could reflect reporting procedures. Although six courts showed significant increases in dispositions over FY 86, statewide disposition for children's matters remained the same as FY 86.

SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF FILINGS BY COURT

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	10642	11766	11169	10422	- 2	- 7
Barrow	250	285	284	308	+ 23	+ 8
Bethel	511	469	559	458	- 10	- 18
Fairbanks	3608	3448	3112	2858	- 21	- 8
Juneau	1177	1211	1167	1045	- 11	- 10
Kenai	951	928	1096	1025	+ 8	- 6
Ketchikan	810	813	714	745	- 8	+ 4
Kodiak	429	455	490	426	- 1	- 13
Kotzebue	343	263	368	326	- 5	- 11
Nome	288	330	404	354	+ 23	- 12
Palmer	867	1148	1118	1000	+ 15	- 11
Sitka	388	322	314	347	- 11	+ 11
Valdez	*	133	105	102	-	- 3
Wrangell/ Petersburg	196	219	171	189	- 4	+ 11
TOTAL	20460	21790	21071	19605	- 4	- 7

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2571	2565	2366	2326	- 10	- 2
Second	881	878	1056	988	+ 12	- 6
Third	12889	14430	13978	12975	-	- 7
Fourth	4119	3917	3671	3316	- 19	- 10

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 87

COURT	CRIMINAL		CIVIL			CHILDRENS MATTERS	TOTAL
	FELONY		PROBATE	DOMESTIC RELATIONS	OTHER		
Anchorage	957		1280	4608	2898	679	10422
Barrow	86		19	72	27	104	308
Bethel	158		108	128	55	9	458
Fairbanks	441		484	960	738	235	2858
Juneau	115		168	418	270	74	1045
Kenai	143		122	319	246	195	1025
Ketchikan	133		106	238	148	120	745
Kodiak	99		70	146	84	27	426
Kotzebue	80		44	41	91	70	326
Nome	103		76	59	50	66	354
Palmer	227		112	429	134	98	1000
Sitka	50		47	114	73	63	347
Valdez	24		12	32	26	8	102
Wrangell/ Petersburg	45		26	73	17	28	189
TOTAL	2661		2674	7637	4857	1776	19605

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	343		347	843	508	285	2326
Second	269		139	172	168	240	988
Third	1450		1596	5534	3388	1007	12975
Fourth	599		592	1088	793	244	3316

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF DISPOSITIONS BY COURT

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	8105	9491	9003	9854	+ 21	+ 9
Barrow	220	213	334	322	+ 46	- 4
Bethel	440	465	501	403	- 8	- 20
Fairbanks	2839	3632	3566	2633	+ 7	- 26
Juneau	898	977	909	924	+ 3	+ 2
Kenai	722	873	1131	991	+ 38	- 12
Ketchikan	694	616	641	699	+ 1	+ 9
Kodiak	331	290	441	468	+ 41	+ 6
Kotzebue	340	300	330	331	- 3	-
Nome	297	263	392	377	+ 27	- 4
Palmer	605	825	877	936	+ 55	+ 7
Sitka	317	334	318	310	- 2	- 3
Valdez	*	97	70	69	-	- 1
Wrangell/ Petersburg	140	185	193	188	+ 34	- 3
TOTAL	15948	18561	18706	18505	+ 16	- 1

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2049	2112	2061	2121	+ 4	+ 3
Second	857	776	1056	1030	+ 20	- 2
Third	9763	11576	11522	12318	+ 26	+ 7
Fourth	3279	4097	4067	3036	- 7	- 24

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
FELONY CASES
FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	563	635	1103	957	+ 70	- 13
Barrow	85	51	50	86	+ 1	+ 72
Bethel	142	90	142	158	+ 11	+ 11
Fairbanks	403	309	343	441	+ 9	+ 29
Juneau	156	122	119	115	- 26	- 3
Kenai	102	75	174	143	+ 40	- 18
Ketchikan	53	76	147	133	+ 151	- 10
Kodiak	53	81	104	99	+ 87	- 5
Kotzebue	52	52	93	80	+ 54	- 14
Nome	51	58	109	103	+ 102	- 6
Palmer	143	136	198	227	+ 59	+ 15
Sitka	24	23	37	50	+ 108	+ 35
Valdez	*	35	20	24	-	+ 20
Wrangell/ Petersburg	19	39	19	45	+ 137	+ 137
TOTAL	1846	1782	2658	2661	+ 44	-

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	252	260	322	343	+ 36	+ 7
Second	188	161	252	269	+ 43	+ 7
Third	861	962	1599	1450	+ 68	- 9
Fourth	545	399	485	599	+ 10	+ 24

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
FELONY CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 87

COURT	CASE TYPE					TOTAL
	VIOLENT	PROPERTY	FRAUD/ FORGERY	DRUGS	OTHER	
Anchorage	334	317	103	156	47	957
Barrow	41	14	-	26	5	86
Bethel	73	30	1	7	47	158
Fairbanks	118	148	36	76	63	441
Juneau	42	29	16	24	4	115
Kenai	44	58	4	27	10	143
Ketchikan	48	30	3	24	28	133
Kodiak	35	27	8	24	5	99
Kotzebue	46	27	1	5	1	80
Nome	64	19	4	14	2	103
Palmer	65	64	9	65	24	227
Sitka	22	10	2	9	7	50
Valdez	7	4	-	4	9	24
Wrangell/ Petersburg	14	13	5	12	1	45
TOTAL	953	790	192	473	253	2661

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	126	82	26	69	40	343
Second	151	60	5	45	8	269
Third	485	470	124	276	95	1450
Fourth	191	178	37	83	110	599

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
FELONY CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	499	558	1043	947	+ 90	- 9
Barrow	51	50	71	62	+ 22	- 13
Bethel	125	90	120	111	- 11	- 7
Fairbanks	333	279	414	384	+ 15	- 7
Juneau	89	117	132	125	+ 40	- 5
Kenai	97	98	175	127	+ 31	- 27
Ketchikan	74	69	108	130	+ 76	+ 20
Kodiak	49	40	113	92	+ 88	- 19
Kotzebue	68	66	93	63	- 7	- 32
Nome	48	58	98	94	+ 96	- 4
Palmer	113	141	153	157	+ 39	+ 3
Sitka	26	29	32	40	+ 54	+ 25
Valdez	*	2	16	16	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	16	23	22	41	+ 156	+ 86
TOTAL	1588	1620	2590	2389	+ 50	- 8

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	205	238	294	336	+ 64	+ 14
Second	167	174	262	219	+ 31	- 16
Third	758	839	1500	1339	+ 77	- 11
Fourth	458	369	534	495	+ 8	- 7

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
FELONY CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 87

COURT	STAGES OF DISPOSITION								TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
	AT/BEFORE ARRAIGNMENT		BETWEEN ARGN. AND TRIAL		COURT TRIALS		JURY TRIALS		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Anchorage	117	12 %	712	75%	7	1%	111	12%	947
Barrow	-	-	57	92%	-	-	5	8%	62
Bethel	3	3 %	105	94%	1	1%	2	2%	111
Fairbanks	30	8 %	309	80%	1	1%	44	11%	384
Juneau	3	3 %	118	94%	-		4	3%	125
Kenai	1	1 %	115	90%	1	1%	10	8%	127
Ketchikan	1	1 %	118	91%	-	-	11	8%	130
Kodiak	-	-	87	95%	-	-	5	5%	92
Kotzebue	-	-	59	94%	-	-	4	6%	63
Nome	5	5 %	87	93%	-	-	2	2%	94
Palmer	7	4 %	147	94%	-		3	2%	157
Sitka	1	2.5 %	38	95%	-	-	1	2.5%	40
Valdez	-	-	15	94%	-	-	1	6%	16
Wrangell/ Petersburg	12	29 %	27	66%	1	2%	1	2%	41
TOTAL	180	7.5 %	1994	83.5%	11	.5%	204	8.5%	2389

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	17	5%	301	90%	1	.3%	17	5%	336
Second	5	2%	203	93%	-	-	11	5%	219
Third	125	9%	1076	80%	8	6%	130	10%	1339
Fourth	33	7%	414	83.6%	2	.4%	46	9%	495

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
PROBATE CASES
FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE FY 84 TO FY 87	% INCREASE FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	1476	1593	1368	1280	- 13	- 6
Barrow	21	30	26	19	- 10	- 27
Bethel	75	84	116	108	+ 44	- 7
Fairbanks	537	470	584	484	- 10	- 17
Juneau	122	142	162	168	+ 38	+ 4
Kenai	88	96	86	122	+ 39	+ 42
Ketchikan	120	142	111	106	- 12	- 5
Kodiak	55	37	46	70	+ 27	+ 52
Kotzebue	47	51	42	44	- 6	+ 5
Nome	63	67	65	76	+ 21	+ 17
Palmer	72	98	98	112	+ 56	+ 14
Sitka	75	50	55	47	- 37	- 15
Valdez	*	15	10	12	-	+ 20
Wrangell/ Petersburg	29	36	34	26	- 10	- 24
TOTAL	2780	2911	2803	2674	- 4	- 5

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	346	370	362	347	-	- 4
Second	131	148	133	139	+ 6	+ 5
Third	1691	1839	1608	1596	- 6	- 1
Fourth	612	554	700	592	- 3	- 15

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
PROBATE CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 87

COURT	CASE TYPE							TOTAL
	ADOP-TION	ESTATES	SANITY	GUARD-IANSHIP	PROBATE WAIVER	PROTECT-TIVE	OTHER	
Anchorage	289	424	204	128	156	78	1	1280
Barrow	16	1	-	1	-	-	1	19
Bethel	31	13	62	2	-	-	-	108
Fairbanks	105	220	91	48	-	13	7	484
Juneau	22	49	69	24	-	2	2	168
Kenai	21	51	34	11	-	-	5	122
Ketchikan	18	38	3	10	-	-	37	106
Kodiak	13	26	11	15	-	-	5	70
Kotzebue	11	5	18	1	-	-	9	44
Nome	21	20	33	2	-	-	-	76
Palmer	30	44	15	19	2	2	-	112
Sitka	8	17	11	5	-	-	6	47
Valdez	2	5	1	3	-	-	1	12
Wrangell/ Petersburg	7	11	7	1	-	-	-	26
TOTAL	594	924	559	270	158	95	74	2674
% OF TOTAL	22%	34%	21%	10%	6%	4%	3%	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	55	115	90	40	-	2	45	347
Second	48	26	51	4	-	-	10	139
Third	355	550	265	176	158	80	12	1596
Fourth	136	233	153	50	-	13	7	592

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
PROBATE CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	1008	1060	924	878	- 13	- 5
Barrow	4	3	33	22	+ 450	- 33
Bethel	43	49	98	109	+ 153	+ 11
Fairbanks	407	492	470	774	+ 90	+ 65
Juneau	90	114	93	143	+ 59	+ 54
Kenai	26	23	75	75	+ 188	-
Ketchikan	75	81	98	99	+ 32	+ 1
Kodiak	3	5	18	16	+ 433	- 11
Kotzebue	49	24	42	34	- 31	- 19
Nome	36	35	59	83	+ 131	+ 41
Palmer	26	66	56	71	+ 173	+ 27
Sitka	16	58	70	29	+ 81	- 59
Valdez	*	7	4	10	-	+150
Wrangell/ Petersburg	14	43	25	28	+ 100	+ 12
TOTAL	1797	2060	2065	2371	+ 32	+ 15

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	195	296	286	299	+ 53	+ 5
Second	89	62	134	139	+ 56	+ 4
Third	1063	1161	1077	1050	- 1	- 3
Fourth	450	541	568	883	+ 96	+ 55

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES
FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	5074	5013	5102	4608	- 9	- 10
Barrow	91	92	72	72	- 21	-
Bethel	136	147	155	128	- 6	- 17
Fairbanks	1489	1565	1233	960	- 36	- 22
Juneau	490	629	458	418	- 15	- 9
Kenai	425	484	393	319	- 25	- 19
Ketchikan	332	340	238	238	- 28	-
Kodiak	196	189	180	146	- 26	- 19
Kotzebue	108	64	68	41	- 62	- 40
Nome	81	98	58	59	- 27	+ 2
Palmer	442	578	543	429	- 3	- 21
Sitka	152	107	90	114	- 25	+ 27
Valdez	*	53	43	32	-	- 26
Wrangell/ Petersburg	86	49	70	73	- 15	+ 4
TOTAL	9102	9408	8703	7637	- 16	- 12

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1060	1125	856	843	- 20	- 2
Second	280	254	198	172	- 39	- 13
Third	6137	6317	6261	5534	- 10	- 12
Fourth	1625	1712	1388	1088	- 33	- 22

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 87

COURT	CASE TYPE					TOTAL
	DIVORCE	DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE	RECIPROCAL SUPPORT	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	OTHER	
Anchorage	932	1641	545	1377	113	4608
Barrow	3	23	3	43	-	72
Bethel	19	15	13	81	-	128
Fairbanks	223	556	50	73	58	960
Juneau	84	171	28	129	6	418
Kenai	45	164	5	105	-	319
Ketchikan	51	122	14	49	2	238
Kodiak	43	65	-	38	-	146
Kotzebue	2	14	8	17	-	41
Nome	14	20	10	15	-	59
Palmer	68	178	19	154	10	429
Sitka	29	54	2	28	1	114
Valdez	16	8	1	7	-	32
Wrangell/ Petersburg	18	27	3	25	-	73
TOTAL	1547	3058	701	2141	190	7637

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	182	374	47	231	9	843
Second	19	57	21	75	-	172
Third	1104	2056	570	1681	123	5534
Fourth	242	571	63	154	58	1088

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	4233	4219	4544	3959	- 6	- 13
Barrow	57	74	66	81	+ 42	+ 23
Bethel	136	147	153	116	- 15	- 24
Fairbanks	1418	1660	1575	886	- 38	- 44
Juneau	452	531	419	380	- 16	- 9
Kenai	346	477	426	325	- 6	- 24
Ketchikan	350	280	276	221	- 37	- 20
Kodiak	172	163	173	185	+ 8	+ 7
Kotzebue	124	87	79	49	- 60	- 38
Nome	99	86	69	59	- 40	- 14
Palmer	324	420	469	485	+ 50	+ 3
Sitka	155	125	89	96	- 38	+ 8
Valdez	*	68	36	22	-	- 39
Wrangell/ Petersburg	73	49	67	78	+ 7	+ 16
TOTAL	7939	8386	8441	6942	- 13	- 18

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1030	985	851	775	- 25	- 9
Second	280	247	214	189	- 32	- 12
Third	5075	5347	5648	4976	- 2	- 12
Fourth	1554	1807	1728	1002	- 36	- 42

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 87

COURT	STAGE OF DISPOSITION					TOTAL
	DISMISSED	DIVORCE HEARING	TRIAL	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	OTHER	
Anchorage	237	1752	223	1192	555	3959
Barrow	17	17	-	41	6	81
Bethel	9	14	2	79	12	116
Fairbanks	113	635	18	71	49	886
Juneau	18	215	6	112	29	380
Kenai	-	213	2	96	14	325
Ketchikan	19	152	4	38	8	221
Kodiak	43	86	2	48	6	185
Kotzebue	11	15	-	18	5	49
Nome	12	23	2	16	6	59
Palmer	79	222	8	148	28	485
Sitka	10	55	1	24	6	96
Valdez	3	12	2	3	2	22
Wrangell/ Petersburg	10	41	2	22	3	78
TOTAL	581	3452	272	1908	729	6942

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	57	463	13	196	46	775
Second	40	55	2	75	17	189
Third	362	2285	237	1487	605	4976
Fourth	122	649	20	150	61	1002

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	2892	3919	2923	2898	-	- 1
Barrow	31	36	30	27	- 13	- 10
Bethel	54	58	50	55	+ 2	+ 10
Fairbanks	645	792	699	738	+ 77	+ 63
Juneau	336	290	325	270	- 20	- 17
Kenai	207	248	273	246	+ 19	- 10
Ketchikan	147	139	131	148	-	+ 13
Kodiak	88	118	121	84	- 5	- 31
Kotzebue	76	32	99	91	+ 20	- 8
Nome	50	17	92	50	-	- 46
Palmer	139	229	148	134	- 4	- 9
Sitka	61	71	62	73	+ 20	+ 18
Valdez	*	23	27	26	-	- 4
Wrangell/ Petersburg	22	24	20	17	- 23	- 15
TOTAL	4748	5996	5000	4857	+ 2	- 3

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	566	524	538	508	- 10	- 6
Second	157	85	221	168	+ 7	- 24
Third	3326	4537	3492	3388	+ 2	- 3
Fourth	699	850	749	793	+ 13	+ 6

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 87

COURT	CASE TYPE				TOTAL
	CIVIL DAMAGE	ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW	GENERAL	OTHER	
Anchorage	1016	148	927	807	2898
Barrow	6	1	20	-	27
Bethel	17	-	38	-	55
Fairbanks	302	58	331	47	738
Juneau	84	23	52	111	270
Kenai	46	17	183	-	246
Ketchikan	94	2	52	-	148
Kodiak	13	3	68	-	84
Kotzebue	6	-	85	-	91
Nome	4	2	44	-	50
Palmer	60	4	27	43	134
Sitka	7	3	63	-	73
Valdez	-	-	26	-	26
Wrangell/ Petersburg	9	1	2	5	17
TOTAL	1664	262	1918	1013	4857

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	194	29	169	116	508
Second	16	3	149	-	168
Third	1135	172	1231	850	3388
Fourth	319	58	369	47	793

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	1902	3356	2109	3713	+ 95	+ 76
Barrow	14	20	38	32	+ 129	- 16
Bethel	41	77	44	39	- 5	- 11
Fairbanks	597	1021	917	441	- 26	- 52
Juneau	244	215	224	229	- 6	+ 2
Kenai	126	259	237	236	+ 87	-
Ketchikan	117	116	112	96	- 18	- 14
Kodiak	74	61	99	128	+ 73	+ 29
Kotzebue	37	37	64	99	+ 168	+ 55
Nome	62	27	69	74	+ 19	+ 7
Palmer	84	99	136	128	+ 52	- 6
Sitka	54	58	57	82	+ 52	+ 44
Valdez	*	17	11	16	-	+ 45
Wrangell/ Petersburg	14	24	19	18	+ 29	- 5
TOTAL	3366	5387	4136	5331	+ 58	+ 29

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	429	413	412	425	- 1	+ 3
Second	113	84	171	205	+ 81	+ 20
Third	2186	3792	2592	4221	+ 93	+ 63
Fourth	638	1098	961	480	- 25	- 50

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 87

COURT	STAGE OF DISPOSITION					TOTAL
	DISMISS	DEFAULT	SUMMARY JUDGMENT	JURY TRIAL	COURT TRIAL	
Anchorage	1899	194	1535	43	42	3713
Barrow	22	2	7	1	-	32
Bethel	26	2	11	-	-	39
Fairbanks	217	-	146	2	76	441
Juneau	119	17	89	-	4	229
Kenai	-	-	230	1	5	236
Ketchikan	45	13	28	1	9	96
Kodiak	99	5	20	2	2	128
Kotzebue	81	-	17	1	-	99
Nome	25	19	29	-	1	74
Palmer	77	11	36	3	1	128
Sitka	47	5	29	1	-	82
Valdez	8	5	2	-	1	16
Wrangell/ Petersburg	10	1	3	-	4	18
TOTAL	2675	274	2182	55	145	5331

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	221	36	149	2	17	425
Second	128	21	53	2	1	205
Third	2083	215	1823	49	51	4221
Fourth	243	2	157	2	76	480

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
CHILDREN'S MATTERS
FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	637	606	673	679	+ 7	+ 1
Barrow	22	76	106	104	+373	- 2
Bethel	104	90	96	9	- 91	-91
Fairbanks	534	312	253	235	- 56	- 7
Juneau	73	28	103	74	+ 1	-28
Kenai	129	25	170	195	+ 51	+15
Ketchikan	158	116	87	120	- 24	+38
Kodiak	37	30	39	27	- 28	-31
Kotzebue	60	64	66	70	+ 17	+ 6
Nome	43	90	80	66	+ 53	-17
Palmer	71	107	131	98	+ 38	-25
Sitka	76	71	70	63	- 17	-10
Valdez	*	7	5	8	-	+60
Wrangell/ Petersburg	40	71	28	28	- 30	-
TOTAL	1984	1693	1907	1776	- 10	- 7

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	347	286	288	285	- 18	- 1
Second	125	230	252	240	+ 92	- 5
Third	874	775	1018	1007	+ 15	- 1
Fourth	638	402	349	244	- 62	-30

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
CHILDREN'S MATTERS
DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	463	412	383	357	- 23	- 7
Barrow	94	66	126	125	+ 33	- 1
Bethel	95	102	86	28	- 71	- 67
Fairbanks	84	180	190	148	+ 76	- 22
Juneau	23	-	41	47	+104	+ 15
Kenai	127	16	218	228	+ 80	+ 5
Ketchikan	78	70	47	153	+ 96	+ 225
Kodiak	33	21	38	47	+ 42	+ 24
Kotzebue	62	86	52	86	+ 39	+ 65
Nome	52	57	97	67	+ 29	- 31
Palmer	58	99	63	95	+ 64	+ 51
Sitka	66	64	70	63	- 5	- 10
Valdez	*	3	3	5	-	+ 67
Wrangell/ Petersburg	23	46	60	23	-	- 62
TOTAL	1258	1222	1474	1472	+ 17	-

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	190	180	218	286	+ 51	+ 31
Second	208	209	275	278	+ 34	+ 1
Third	681	551	705	732	+ 7	+ 4
Fourth	179	282	276	176	- 2	- 37

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
CHILDREN'S MATTERS
FORMAL DISPOSITIONS

FY 87

COURT	PROBATION	INSTITUTION-ALIZED	TERMI-NATION PARENTAL RIGHTS	DISMISSED	OTHER	TOTAL
Anchorage	184	52	-	4	117	357
Barrow				4	121	125
Bethel				6	22	28
Fairbanks	-	54	1	38	55	148
Juneau				-	47	47
Kenai	50	10	-	61	107	228
Ketchikan				120	33	153
Kodiak				20	27	47
Kotzebue				49	37	86
Nome				36	31	67
Palmer	6	3	-	32	54	95
Sitka				28	35	63
Valdez				1	4	5
Wrangell/ Petersburg	4	-	-	9	10	23
TOTAL	244	119	1	408	700	1472

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	4	-	-	157	125	286
Second	-	-	-	89	189	278
Third	240	65	-	118	309	732
Fourth	-	54	1	44	77	176

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURT
(Higher Volume)

HIGHER VOLUME DISTRICT COURTS CASELOAD FY 1987

District court statistics are maintained separately for high and low volume courts. There are 22 higher volume courts (including all district courts located with a superior court). There are 30 magistrates in lower volume courts.

Total filings in higher volume district courts remained the same in FY 87 as FY 86. Total dispositions in these courts increased by 1%. This levelling off in filings was true for both the non-traffic filings (misdemeanors, small claims, civil matters and some children's matters) and the traffic filings.

MISDEMEANOR CASES

Misdemeanor case filings increased by 5% during FY 87 in higher volume district courts. Misdemeanor dispositions also increased by 1% from FY 86 levels in these courts.

Traffic related offenses are the largest category of misdemeanor case filings (46%). These offenses include driving while intoxicated (DWI), reckless/negligent driving, driving on a revoked/suspended license, and several accident-related traffic offenses.

SMALL CLAIMS CASES

Statewide filings of small claims cases in higher volume district courts increased by 2% in FY 87. Several rural courts reported significant (10% or higher) increases. Fairbanks reported a 9% increase and Anchorage reported an 8% increase. Statewide, small claims dispositions decreased by 1% over FY 86. Anchorage reported an 8% increase in dispositions to go along with the increased filings. Fairbanks showed a 31% decrease in the number of small claims dispositions.

OTHER CIVIL FILINGS

Other civil case filings (civil damages, debts, contracts and notes, etc.) decreased by 13% during FY 87. Dispositions of other civil cases increased 18% over FY 86 levels. Anchorage showed a 26% increase in dispositions and Palmer and Kenai showed increases of 55% and 90%, respectively.

TRAFFIC CASES

Traffic citation cases are not reported to the administrative office until final disposition. Because of this, filings for traffic matters understate the actual workload in any given year. Wherever filing data is required to assess the overall workload of the courts, traffic disposition data has been substituted for traffic filing data in all tables and charts in this report.

Traffic disposition data is taken from automated files maintained by the Department of Public Safety. Court system personnel enter traffic citation disposition data into these files. On an annual basis, computer programs are run against these files to determine the number of traffic citations disposed of by each court location during the preceding year. Overall, traffic dispositions during FY 87 remained at the same level as FY 86.

CHILDREN'S MATTERS

Although children's matters are normally within the jurisdiction of superior courts, some district court magistrates are empowered to act as standing masters for children's proceedings with the concurrence of the parties. The administrative office began collecting data on these cases in FY 84. There were only 49 such cases reported in FY 84 and that number decreased to 27 in FY 85. In FY 86 there were 61 such children's matters reported and in FY 87 there were 50.

DISTRICT COURTS
FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	70409	69213	68665	69024	- 2	-
Barrow	474	513	721	594	+ 25	- 18
Bethel	1163	1504	1876	1383	+ 19	- 26
Cordova	552	483	497	452	- 18	- 9
Dillingham	614	804	774	684	+ 11	- 12
Fairbanks	20248	14361	14851	16325	- 20	+ 10
Glennallen	724	855	528	543	- 25	+ 3
Homer	2448	2770	2096	2030	- 17	- 3
Juneau	6085	7552	7942	6465	+ 6	- 19
Kenai	7993	7455	7624	6671	- 17	- 12
Ketchikan	4309	4572	3922	3341	- 22	- 15
Kodiak	3141	3631	2806	3561	+ 13	+ 27
Kotzebue	995	1020	945	988	- 1	+ 5
Nome	627	758	1024	769	+ 23	- 25
Palmer	7478	11474	9812	11157	+ 49	+ 14
Petersburg	540	587	690	509	- 6	- 26
Seward	2288	3090	2354	2092	- 9	- 11
Sitka	2402	2345	1680	1906	- 21	+ 13
Tok	1024	997	753	832	- 19	+ 10
Unalaska	363	407	348	503	+ 39	+ 45
Valdez	895	711	538	564	- 37	+ 5
Wrangell	699	599	641	618	- 12	- 4
TOTAL	135471	135701	131087	131011	- 3	-

TRAFFIC DISPOSITIONS USED AS FILINGS

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	14035	15655	14875	12839	- 9	- 14
Second	2096	2291	2690	2351	+ 12	- 13
Third	96905	100893	96042	97281	-	+ 1
Fourth	22435	16862	17480	18540	- 17	+ 6

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 87

COURT	CRIMINAL		OTHER		CIVIL		TOTAL
		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDRENS MATTERS	SMALL CLAIMS	OTHER CIVIL	
Anchorage*		8995	45962		7333	6734	69024
Barrow*		287	245		47	15	594
Bethel*		664	517		185	17	1383
Cordova		184	63	1	145	59	452
Dillingham		327	167	14	107	69	684
Fairbanks*		3687	9870		1876	892	16325
Glennallen		129	266	12	110	26	543
Homer		490	909		409	222	2030
Juneau*		1378	3240		1597	250	6465
Kenai*		1808	4185		537	141	6671
Ketchikan*		1229	1488		527	97	3341
Kodiak*		760	2568		193	40	3561
Kotzebue*		579	184		164	61	988
Nome*		438	236		76	19	769
Palmer		1974	7879		1135	169	11157
Petersburg*		259	146		99	5	509
Seward		453	1366		248	25	2092
Sitka*		509	1049		311	37	1906
Tok		279	514	14	16	9	832
Unalaska		212	188	9	43	51	503
Valdez		238	183		128	15	564
Wrangell*		240	276		78	24	618
TOTAL		25119	81501	50	15364	8977	131011

*Children's Matters reported in Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First		3615	6199		2612	413	12839
Second		1304	665		287	95	2351
Third		15570	63736	36	10388	7551	97281
Fourth		4630	10901	14	2077	918	18540

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30
Traffic Depositions Used as Filings

DISTRICT COURTS
DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	66828	60998	60954	62628	- 6	+ 3
Barrow	410	439	801	677	+ 65	- 15
Bethel	1127	1452	1776	1372	+ 22	- 23
Cordova	537	460	417	394	- 27	- 6
Dillingham	650	747	683	669	+ 3	- 2
Fairbanks	19834	13561	15758	15762	- 21	-
Glennallen	571	833	498	514	- 10	+ 3
Homer	2322	2458	1852	1817	- 22	- 2
Juneau	5684	6592	7346	6169	+ 9	- 16
Kenai	7642	7425	7437	6838	- 11	- 8
Ketchikan	4253	4392	3773	3312	- 22	- 12
Kodiak	3124	3667	2799	3560	+ 14	+ 27
Kotzebue	926	1049	972	930	-	- 4
Nome	644	649	1032	844	+ 31	- 18
Palmer	6916	10582	9310	10671	+ 54	+ 15
Petersburg	501	602	666	520	+ 4	- 22
Seward	2198	3074	2218	2002	- 9	- 10
Sitka	2455	2431	1605	1828	- 26	+ 14
Tok	1019	963	721	828	- 19	+ 15
Unalaska	407	375	295	437	+ 7	+ 48
Valdez	846	764	472	488	- 42	+ 3
Wrangell	677	507	626	623	- 8	-
TOTAL	129571	124020	122011	122883	- 5	+ 1

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	13570	14524	14016	12452	- 8	- 11
Second	1980	2137	2805	2451	+ 24	- 13
Third	92041	91383	86935	90018	- 2	+ 14
Fourth	21980	15976	18255	17962	- 18	- 2

F SCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	17046	22071	22695	23062	+ 35	+ 2
Barrow	454	447	485	349	- 23	- 28
Bethel	697	1067	1111	866	+ 24	- 22
Cordova	427	311	393	389	- 9	- 1
Dillingham	392	590	582	517	+ 32	- 11
Fairbanks	5482	5371	5808	6455	+ 18	+ 11
Glennallen	442	416	314	277	- 37	- 12
Homer	1014	1069	1026	1121	+ 11	+ 9
Juneau	3511	4148	3739	3225	- 8	- 14
Kenai	2775	2708	2664	2486	- 10	- 7
Ketchikan	1745	1663	1643	1853	+ 6	+ 13
Kodiak	1142	1076	1060	993	- 13	- 6
Kotzebue	886	861	755	804	- 9	+ 6
Nome	487	568	739	533	+ 9	- 28
Palmer	2508	3425	3274	3278	+ 31	-
Petersburg	296	345	419	363	+ 23	- 13
Seward	446	674	649	726	+ 63	+ 12
Sitka	986	768	688	857	- 13	+ 25
Tok	265	248	236	318	+ 20	+ 35
Unalaska	274	239	271	315	+ 15	+ 16
Valdez	540	324	351	381	- 29	+ 9
Wrangell	434	362	442	342	- 21	- 23
TOTAL	42249	48751	49344	49510	+ 17	-

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	6972	7286	6931	6640	- 5	- 4
Second	1827	1876	1979	1686	- 8	- 15
Third	27006	32903	33279	33545	+ 24	+ 1
Fourth	6444	6686	7155	7639	+ 19	+ 7

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
NON-TRAFFIC DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	13465	13856	14984	16666	+ 24	+ 11
Barrow	390	373	565	432	+ 11	- 24
Bethel	661	1015	1011	855	+ 29	- 15
Cordova	412	288	313	331	- 20	+ 6
Dillingham	428	533	491	502	+ 17	+ 2
Fairbanks	5068	4571	6715	5892	+ 16	- 12
Glennallen	289	394	284	248	- 14	- 13
Homer	888	759	782	908	+ 2	+ 16
Juneau	3110	3188	3143	2929	- 6	- 7
Kenai	2424	2678	2477	2653	+ 9	+ 7
Ketchikan	1689	1483	1494	1824	+ 8	+ 22
Kodiak	1125	1112	1053	992	- 12	- 6
Kotzebue	817	890	782	746	- 9	- 5
Nome	504	459	747	608	+ 21	- 19
Palmer	1946	2533	2772	2792	+ 43	+ 1
Petersburg	257	360	395	374	+ 46	- 5
Seward	356	658	513	636	+ 79	+ 24
Sitka	1039	854	613	779	- 25	+ 27
Tok	260	214	204	314	+ 21	+ 54
Unalaska	318	202	218	249	- 22	+ 14
Valdez	491	377	285	305	- 38	+ 7
Wrangell	412	270	427	347	- 16	- 19
TOTAL	36349	37072	40268	41382	+ 14	+ 3

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	6507	6155	6072	6253	- 4	+ 3
Second	1711	1722	2094	1786	+ 4	- 15
Third	22142	23395	24172	26282	+ 19	+ 9
Fourth	5989	5800	7930	7061	+ 18	- 11

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
MISDEMEANOR CASE FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	8679	8019	7989	8995	+ 4	+ 13
Barrow	354	345	365	287	- 19	- 21
Bethel	544	829	626	664	+ 22	+ 6
Cordova	241	150	228	184	- 24	- 19
Dillingham	260	391	362	327	+ 26	- 10
Fairbanks	4062	3283	3247	3687	- 9	+ 14
Glennallen	164	245	132	129	- 21	- 2
Homer	503	497	478	490	- 3	+ 3
Juneau	2125	2243	1758	1378	- 35	- 22
Kenai	2315	1995	1927	1808	- 22	- 6
Ketchikan	1269	1266	1221	1229	- 3	+ 1
Kodiak	880	710	710	760	- 14	+ 7
Kotzebue	666	776	600	579	- 13	- 3
Nome	363	395	493	438	+ 21	- 11
Palmer	1808	2163	1747	1974	+ 9	+ 13
Petersburg	183	211	303	259	+ 42	- 15
Seward	349	488	427	453	+ 30	+ 6
Sitka	790	546	433	509	- 36	+ 18
Tok	226	212	184	279	+ 23	+ 52
Unalaska	171	142	125	212	+ 24	+ 70
Valdez	306	252	208	238	- 22	+ 14
Wrangell	305	234	316	240	- 21	- 24
TOTAL	26563	25392	23879	25119	- 5	+ 5

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	4672	4500	4031	3615	- 23	- 10
Second	1383	1516	1458	1304	- 6	- 11
Third	15676	15052	14333	15570	- 1	+ 9
Fourth	4832	4324	4057	4630	- 4	+ 14

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
MISDEMEANOR CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 87

COURT	VIOLENCE	THEFT/ FRAUD	ENVIRON-MENTAL	NUISANCE	ALCOHOL/ DRUGS	RESISTING THE LAW	VICE	TRAFFIC	OTHER	TOTAL
Anchorage	1047	1943	95	526	209	116	191	4795	73	8995
Barrow	57	4	21	40	67	-	-	86	12	287
Bethel	139	15	123	113	54	5	-	131	84	664
Cordova	17	8	52	32	28	6	-	33	8	184
Dillingham	52	9	25	71	81	2	-	81	6	327
Fairbanks	346	639	47	492	335	13	2	1622	191	3687
Glennallen	34	18	8	24	8	-	-	32	5	129
Homer	62	32	27	29	48	11	-	265	16	490
Juneau	138	110	45	260	218	35	-	531	41	1378
Kenai	178	114	153	76	137	8	-	1037	105	1808
Ketchikan	142	77	90	156	342	14	-	392	16	1229
Kodiak	85	46	93	87	105	-	-	317	27	760
Kotzebue	188	23	3	75	172	4	-	101	13	579
Nome	109	64	29	60	119	-	-	41	16	438
Palmer	81	97	274	70	91	24	-	1292	45	1974
Petersburg	14	43	40	32	36	1	-	90	3	259
Seward	47	49	45	31	29	12	-	229	11	453
Sitka	75	20	74	47	72	-	-	197	24	509
Tok	20	14	12	89	26	6	-	110	2	279
Unalaska	25	23	71	38	8	2	-	43	2	212
Valdez	21	18	30	22	44	5	-	89	9	238
Wrangell	15	7	37	45	31	2	-	95	8	240
TOTAL	2892	3373	1394	2415	2260	266	193	11609	717	25119
% OF TOTAL	11.5%	13%	5.5%	10%	9%	1%	1%	46%	3%	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	384	257	286	540	699	52	-	1305	92	3615
Second	354	91	53	175	358	4	-	228	41	1304
Third	1649	2357	873	1006	788	186	191	8213	307	15570
Fourth	505	668	182	694	415	24	2	1863	277	4630

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
MISDEMEANOR CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	7228	8100	7647	8156	+ 13	+ 7
Barrow	357	285	439	323	- 10	- 26
Bethel	526	818	636	558	+ 6	- 12
Cordova	261	127	198	196	- 25	- 1
Dillingham	281	334	323	353	+ 26	+ 9
Fairbanks	3738	2955	3355	3390	- 9	+ 1
Glennallen	107	196	124	131	+ 22	+ 6
Homer	428	496	450	475	+ 11	+ 6
Juneau	1920	1797	1740	1432	- 24	- 18
Kenai	2131	1917	1859	1759	- 17	- 5
Ketchikan	1137	1160	1133	1230	+ 8	+ 9
Kodiak	937	728	622	708	- 24	+ 14
Kotzebue	696	752	668	548	- 21	- 18
Nome	399	349	477	452	+ 13	- 5
Palmer	1512	1879	1654	1731	+ 14	+ 5
Petersburg	185	171	268	265	+ 43	- 1
Seward	301	501	393	410	+ 36	+ 4
Sitka	765	636	415	470	- 39	+ 13
Tok	212	180	158	278	+ 31	+ 76
Unalaska	201	107	120	178	- 11	+ 48
Valdez	270	212	191	223	- 17	+ 17
Wrangell	300	199	311	226	- 25	- 27
TOTAL	23892	23899	23181	23492	- 2	+ 1

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	4307	3963	3867	3623	- 16	- 6
Second	1452	1386	1584	1323	- 9	- 16
Third	13657	14597	13581	14320	+ 5	+ 5
Fourth	4476	3953	4149	4226	- 6	+ 2

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
MISDEMEANOR CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 87

COURT	STAGES OF DISPOSITION								TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
	AT/BEFORE ARRAIGNMENT		BETWEEN ARGN. AND TRIAL		COURT TRIALS		JURY TRIALS		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Anchorage	2915	36	5127	63	20	.2	94	1	8156
Barrow	-	-	318	98	2	1	3	1	323
Bethel	108	19	443	79	1	.2	6	1	558
Cordova	73	37	111	57	5	2	7	4	196
Dillingham	92	26	255	72	-	-	6	2	353
Fairbanks	972	29	2306	68	40	1	72	2	3390
Glennallen	34	26	97	74	-	-	-	-	131
Homer	151	32	320	67	2	.5	2	.5	475
Juneau	470	33	944	66	6	.5	12	1	1432
Kenai	314	18	1410	80	9	.5	26	1.5	1759
Ketchikan	599	49	596	48	16	1	19	2	1230
Kodiak	36	5	666	94	4	.5	2	.3	708
Kotzebue	73	13	470	86	-	-	5	1	548
Nome	76	17	376	83	-	-	-	-	452
Palmer	614	35	1089	63	7	.4	21	1	1731
Petersburg	137	51	124	47	2	1	2	1	265
Seward	136	33	266	65	2	.5	6	1.5	410
Sitka	186	39.5	266	56.5	13	3	5	1	470
Tok	145	52	131	47	-	-	2	1	278
Unalaska	85	48	86	48	4	2	3	2	178
Valdez	99	44	119	53	4	2	1	.4	223
Wrangell	120	53	94	42	7	3	5	2	226
TOTAL	7435		15614		144		299		23492
% OF TOTAL	32%		66%		.7%		1.3%		100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1512	42	2024	56	44	1	43	1	3623
Second	149	11	1164	88	2	.2	8	.6	1323
Third	4549	32	9546	67	57	.4	168	1	14320
Fourth	1225	29	2880	68	41	1	80	2	4226

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
SMALL CLAIMS CASE FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	5041	6754	6787	7333	+ 45	+ 8
Barrow	74	89	110	47	- 36	- 57
Bethel	134	225	459	185	+ 38	- 60
Cordova	105	85	91	145	+ 38	+ 59
Dillingham	45	144	142	107	+ 138	- 25
Fairbanks	946	1475	1715	1876	+ 98	+ 9
Glennallen	253	134	134	110	- 57	- 18
Homer	312	364	311	409	+ 31	+ 32
Juneau	1159	1671	1613	1597	+ 38	- 1
Kenai	426	592	591	537	+ 26	- 9
Ketchikan	417	323	333	527	+ 26	+ 58
Kodiak	222	331	288	193	- 13	- 33
Kotzebue	219	60	150	164	- 25	+ 9
Nome	108	168	223	76	- 30	- 66
Palmer	651	1158	1306	1135	+ 74	- 13
Petersburg	109	129	113	99	- 9	- 12
Seward	68	146	175	248	+ 265	+ 42
Sitka	152	186	201	311	+ 105	+ 55
Tok	22	26	15	16	- 27	+ 7
Unalaska	48	41	76	43	- 10	- 43
Valdez	101	65	121	128	+ 27	+ 6
Wrangell	123	118	115	78	- 37	- 32
TOTAL	10735	14284	15069	15364	+ 43	+ 2

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1960	2427	2375	2612	+ 33	+ 10
Second	401	317	483	287	- 28	- 41
Third	7272	9814	10022	10388	+ 43	+ 4
Fourth	1102	1726	2189	2077	+ 88	- 5

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
SMALL CLAIMS CASE DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	4296	3692	4156	4492	+ 5	+ 8
Barrow	21	70	117	86	+ 310	- 26
Bethel	122	187	352	282	+ 131	- 20
Cordova	98	82	73	88	- 10	+ 21
Dillingham	60	135	112	74	+ 23	- 34
Fairbanks	855	1075	2390	1657	+ 94	- 31
Glennallen	158	174	115	85	- 46	- 26
Homer	293	178	178	267	- 9	+ 50
Juneau	1003	1225	1172	1312	+ 31	+ 12
Kenai	268	630	521	710	+ 165	+ 36
Ketchikan	441	279	318	497	+ 13	+ 56
Kodiak	162	355	362	217	+ 34	- 40
Kotzebue	118	114	111	149	+ 26	+ 34
Nome	91	102	251	125	+ 37	- 50
Palmer	410	581	1023	914	+ 123	- 11
Petersburg	69	178	125	106	+ 54	- 15
Seward	34	120	82	205	+ 503	+150
Sitka	234	180	161	274	+ 17	+ 70
Tok	28	22	16	14	- 50	- 12
Unalaska	60	44	43	29	- 52	- 33
Valdez	112	158	73	73	- 35	-
Wrangell	107	69	109	102	- 5	- 6
TOTAL	9040	9650	11860	11758	+ 30	- 1

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1854	1931	1885	2291	+ 24	+ 22
Second	230	286	479	360	+ 57	- 25
Third	5951	6149	6738	7154	+ 20	+ 6
Fourth	1005	1284	2758	1953	+ 94	- 29

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
SMALL CLAIMS CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 87

COURT	STAGES OF DISPOSITION					TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
	DISMISS	DEFAULT JUDGMENT	SUMMARY JUDGMENT	TRIAL	OTHER	
Anchorage	1022	1826	677	485	482	4492
Barrow	68	10	3	2	3	86
Bethel	174	56	17	9	26	282
Cordova	30	26	29	2	1	88
Dillingham	30	33	3	6	2	74
Fairbanks	690	-	-	347	620	1657
Glennallen	32	39	9	2	3	85
Homer	92	129	-	17	29	267
Juneau	509	573	102	76	52	1312
Kenai	1	-	-	1	708	710
Ketchikan	237	191	-	36	33	497
Kodiak	115	51	-	20	31	217
Kotzebue	62	44	-	3	40	149
Nome	77	22	-	12	14	125
Palmer	366	331	112	77	28	914
Petersburg	54	27	19	5	1	106
Seward	96	86	17	4	2	205
Sitka	106	108	-	16	44	274
Tok	5	3	1	3	2	14
Unalaska	11	5	6	6	1	29
Valdez	28	27	-	9	9	73
Wrangell	60	23	16	2	1	102
TOTAL	3865	3610	1011	1140	2132	11758
% OF TOTAL	33%	31%	8%	10%	18%	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	966	922	137	135	131	2291
Second	207	76	3	17	57	360
Third	1823	2553	853	629	1296	7154
Fourth	869	59	18	359	648	1953

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASE FILINGS*

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	3326	7298	7919	6734	+ 102	- 15
Barrow	26	13	10	15	- 42	+ 50
Bethel	19	13	26	17	- 11	- 35
Cordova	81	72	71	59	- 27	- 17
Dillingham	77	55	68	69	- 10	+ 1
Fairbanks	474	613	846	892	+ 88	+ 5
Glennallen	21	27	22	26	+ 24	+ 18
Homer	199	208	237	222	+ 12	- 6
Juneau	227	234	368	250	+ 10	- 32
Kenai	34	121	146	141	+ 315	- 3
Ketchikan	59	74	89	97	+ 64	+ 9
Kodiak	40	35	62	40	-	- 35
Kotzebue	1	25	5	61	+ 6000	+ 1120
Nome	16	5	23	19	+ 19	- 17
Palmer	49	104	221	169	+ 245	- 24
Petersburg	4	5	3	5	+ 25	+ 67
Seward	25	32	47	25	-	- 47
Sitka	44	36	54	37	- 16	- 31
Tok	5	6	20	9	+ 80	- 55
Unalaska	47	55	65	51	+ 9	- 22
Valdez	122	7	22	15	- 88	- 32
Wrangell	6	10	11	24	+ 300	+ 118
TOTAL	4902	9048	10335	8977	+ 83	- 13

*This chart includes those Superior Court Civil matters not reported on Superior Court charts

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	340	359	525	413	+ 21	- 21
Second	43	43	38	95	+ 121	+ 150
Third	4021	8014	8880	7551	+ 88	- 15
Fourth	498	632	892	918	+ 84	+ 3

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 87

COURT	CIVIL DAMAGE	GENERAL/ OTHER	DIVORCE, ETC.*	TOTAL
Anchorage	789	5945	-	6734
Barrow	-	15	-	15
Bethel	7	10	-	17
Cordova	9	14	36	59
Dillingham	4	1	64	69
Fairbanks	93	546	*253	892
Glennallen	-	5	21	26
Homer	6	72	144	222
Juneau	29	221	-	250
Kenai	8	133	-	141
Ketchikan	68	29	-	97
Kodiak	1	39	-	40
Kotzebue	-	61	-	61
Nome	-	19	-	19
Palmer	30	139	-	169
Petersburg	3	2	-	5
Seward	-	3	22	25
Sitka	3	34	-	37
Tok	-	-	9	9
Unalaska	2	8	41	51
Valdez	-	15	-	15
Wrangell	19	5	-	24
TOTAL	1071	7316	590	8977
% OF TOTAL	12%	81%	7%	100%

*Superior Court matters not reported on a Superior Court Chart

*Domestic Violence

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	122	291	-	413
Second	-	95	-	95
Third	849	6374	328	7551
Fourth	100	556	262	918

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	1941	2064	3181	4018	+ 107	+ 26
Barrow	12	18	9	23	+ 92	+ 156
Bethel	13	10	23	15	+ 15	- 35
Cordova	53	79	41	46	- 12	+ 12
Dillingham	74	63	48	60	- 19	+ 25
Fairbanks	475	541	970	845	+ 78	- 13
Glennallen	16	21	16	20	+ 25	+ 25
Homer	167	85	154	166	- 1	+ 8
Juneau	187	166	231	185	- 1	- 20
Kenai	44	131	97	184	+ 318	+ 90
Ketchikan	111	44	43	97	- 13	+ 126
Kodiak	26	29	69	67	+ 158	- 3
Kotzebue	3	24	3	49	+ 1533	+ 1533
Nome	14	8	19	31	+ 121	+ 63
Palmer	24	73	95	147	+ 513	+ 55
Petersburg	3	11	2	3	-	+ 50
Seward	17	31	38	21	+ 24	- 45
Sitka	40	38	37	35	- 12	- 5
Tok	5	8	19	8	+ 60	- 58
Unalaska	45	56	53	40	- 11	- 25
Valdez	107	7	21	9	- 92	- 57
Wrangell	5	2	7	19	+ 280	+ 171
TOTAL	3382	3509	5176	6088	+ 80	+ 18

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	332	261	320	339	+ 2	+ 6
Second	20	50	31	103	+ 415	+ 232
Third	3597	2639	3813	4778	+ 33	+ 25
Fourth	511	559	1012	868	+ 70	- 14

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
CIVIL CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 87

COURT	STAGES OF DISPOSITION						TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
	DISMISS	DEFAULT JUDGMENT	SUMMARY JUDGMENT	JURY TRIAL	COURT TRIAL	OTHER	
Anchorage	1064	1921	561	5	54	413	4018
Barrow	17	4	-	-	-	2	23
Bethel	7	6	-	-	-	2	15
Cordova	10	3	5	-	-	28	46
Dillingham	5	-	3	-	-	52	60
Fairbanks	288	-	20	2	26	509	845
Glennallen	3	-	1	-	-	16	20
Homer	49	8	1	-	-	108	166
Juneau	59	70	21	-	4	31	185
Kenai	-	-	-	1	1	182	184
Ketchikan	36	41	-	1	8	11	97
Kodiak	41	16	-	-	-	10	67
Kotzebue	43	-	-	-	1	5	49
Nome	14	4	2	-	1	10	31
Palmer	75	47	16	3	3	3	147
Petersburg	-	1	-	-	-	2	3
Seward	2	2	-	-	1	16	21
Sitka	18	7	-	1	5	4	35
Tok	-	-	-	-	-	8	8
Unalaska	2	1	1	0	0	36	40
Valdez	5	2	-	-	-	2	9
Wrangell	10	7	2	-	-	-	19
TOTAL	1748	2140	633	13	104	1450	6088
% OF TOTAL	29%	35%	10%	.2%	2%	24%	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	123	126	23	2	17	48	339
Second	74	8	2	-	2	17	103
Third	1256	2000	588	9	59	866	4778
Fourth	295	6	20	2	26	519	868

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
TRAFFIC CASES
DISPOSITIONS*

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage	53363	47142	45970	45962	- 14	-
Barrow	20	66	236	245	+1125	+ 4
Bethel	466	437	765	517	+ 11	- 32
Cordova	125	172	104	63	- 50	- 39
Dillingham	222	214	192	167	- 25	- 13
Fairbanks	14766	8990	9043	9870	- 33	+ 9
Glennallen	282	439	214	266	- 6	+ 24
Homer	1434	1701	1070	909	- 37	- 15
Juneau	2574	3404	4203	3240	+ 26	- 23
Kenai	5218	4747	4960	4185	- 20	- 16
Ketchikan	2564	2909	2279	1488	- 42	- 35
Kodiak	1999	2555	1746	2568	+ 28	+ 47
Kotzebue	109	159	190	184	+ 69	- 3
Nome	140	190	285	236	+ 69	- 17
Palmer	4970	8049	6538	7879	+ 59	+ 21
Petersburg	244	242	271	146	- 40	- 46
Seward	1842	2416	1705	1366	- 26	- 20
Sitka	1416	1577	992	1049	- 26	+ 6
Tok	759	749	517	514	- 32	- 1
Unalaska	89	168	77	188	+ 111	+144
Valdez	355	387	187	183	- 48	- 2
Wrangell	265	237	199	276	+ 4	+ 39
TOTAL	93222	86850	81743	81501	- 13	-

*Tickets counted after dispositions only. No record of current filings

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	7063	8369	7944	6199	- 12	- 22
Second	269	415	711	665	+ 147	- 6
Third	69899	67990	62763	63736	- 9	+ 2
Fourth	15991	10176	10325	10901	- 32	+ 6

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
TRAFFIC CASES
COMPOSITION OF DISPOSITION

FY 87

COURT	EQUIPMENT	SPEEDING	SIGNS/ CONTROL DEVICES	OTHER MOVING	LICENSE RESTRIC-TION	REGIS-TRATION/ TITLE	OTHER	UNKNOWN*	TOTAL
Anchorage	6635	12208	5862	4479	2729	10572	3477	-	45962
Barrow	5	6	32	17	12	0	2	171	245
Bethel	1	67	11	28	24	33	8	345	517
Cordova	1	18	6	7	13	13	2	3	63
Dillingham	11	4	15	8	14	32	35	48	167
Fairbanks	716	4274	705	764	951	1875	569	16	9870
Glennallen	36	149	3	6	14	23	12	23	266
Homer	13	448	18	72	99	139	45	75	909
Juneau	166	704	246	271	404	351	35	1063	3240
Kenai	244	1963	160	324	310	492	155	537	4185
Ketchikan	64	483	60	190	254	329	51	57	1488
Kodiak	468	928	202	143	207	262	138	220	2568
Kotzebue	-	9	10	15	24	2	-	124	184
Nome	6	18	48	20	14	14	21	95	236
Palmer	851	4526	290	529	366	874	203	240	7879
Petersburg	5	68	4	32	21	11	5	-	146
Seward	12	658	25	85	51	56	34	445	1366
Sitka	342	178	64	86	118	180	26	55	1049
Tok	13	359	7	14	31	36	22	32	514
Unalaska	13	22	29	8	22	36	15	43	188
Valdez	2	42	7	9	15	9	7	92	183
Wrangell	5	94	12	31	54	17	6	57	276
TOTAL	9609	27226	7816	7138	5747	15356	4868	3741	81501
% OF TOTAL	12%	33%	10%	9%	7%	19%	6%	4%	100%

***Not entered into computer, no positive I.D.**

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	582	1527	386	610	851	888	123	1232	6199
Second	11	33	90	52	50	16	23	390	665
Third	8286	20966	6617	5670	3840	12508	4123	1726	63736
Fourth	730	4700	723	806	1006	1944	599	393	10901

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS CHILDREN'S MATTERS FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage*						
Barrow*						
Bethel*						
Cordova	10	4	3	1	- 90	- 67
Dillingham			10	14		+ 40
Fairbanks*						
Glennallen	4	10	26	12	+ 200	- 54
Homer						
Juneau*						
Kenai*						
Ketchikan*						
Kodiak*						
Kotzebue*						
Nome*						
Palmer						
Petersburg*						
Seward	4	8	0	-	-	-
Sitka*						
Tok	12	4	17	14	+ 17	- 18
Unalaska	8	1	5	9	+ 13	+ 80
Valdez	11	*	*	*		
Wrangell*						
TOTAL	49	27	61	50	+ 2	- 18

*Children's Matters reported in Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First						
Second						
Third	37	23	44	36	- 3	- 18
Fourth	12	4	17	14	+ 17	- 18

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS CHILDREN'S MATTERS DISPOSITONS

FY 84 - FY 87

COURT	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	% INCREASE	
					FY 84 TO FY 87	FY 86 TO FY 87
Anchorage*						
Barrow*						
Bethel*						
Cordova			1	1		-
Dillingham	13	1	8	15	+ 15	+ 88
Fairbanks*						
Glennallen	8	3	29	12	+ 50	- 59
Homer						
Juneau*						
Kenai*						
Ketchikan*						
Kodiak*						
Kotzebue*						
Nome*						
Palmer						
Petersburg*						
Seward	4	6	-	-		
Sitka*						
Tok	15	4	11	14	- 7	+ 27
Unalaska	12	0	2	2	- 83	-
Valdez	2	*	*	*		
Wrangell*						
TOTAL	54	14	51	44	- 19	- 14

*Children's Matters reported in Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First						
Second						
Third	39	10	40	30	- 23	- 25
Fourth	15	4	11	14	- 7	+ 27

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURT
(Lower Volume)

LOWER VOLUME DISTRICT COURTS CASELOAD FY 87

Alaska's lower volume district courts experienced a 7% increase in case filings in FY 87. Increased filings were reported for courts located in the first, second and fourth judicial districts. Third district courts reported a 2% decrease in filings. Dispositions in these courts increased by 2%.

Filings of misdemeanors in these courts increased by 4% overall. First and fourth district courts reported 1% and 20% increases, respectively, while second and third district sites reported 1% and 10% decreases in misdemeanor filings.

Civil case filings (almost all small claims cases) in these courts increased significantly in the second and third districts and decreased significantly in the first and fourth district sites.

Traffic citation dispositions increased by 22% in these courts during FY 87.

Filings of emergency children's matters decreased by 29% over FY 86 levels.

As was discussed earlier in this report, felony case filings will no longer be reported in these courts. All felony matters will be reported in superior courts.

LOW VOLUME DISTRICT COURTS
FILINGS

FY 87

JUDICIAL DISTRICT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
First		1021	619	28	203	1871
Second		274	1	-	35	310
Third		494	84	4	112	694
Fourth		875	1744	26	457	3102
TOTAL		2664	2448	58	807	5977
% OF TOTAL		44%	41%	1%	14%	100%

LOW VOLUME DISTRICT COURTS
DISPOSITIONS

FY 87

JUDICIAL DISTRICT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
First		682	619	1	106	1408
Second		271	1	1	32	305
Third		481	84	-	64	629
Fourth		670	1744	18	332 -	2764
TOTAL		2104	2448	20	534	5106
% OF TOTAL		41%	48%	1%	10%	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT FILINGS

FY 87

COURT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Angoon		10	5	-	11	26
Craig		495	346	20	59	920
Haines		93	88	-	43	224
Hoonah		195	-	7	11	213
Kake		65	24	-	13	102
Skagway		3	111	-	40	154
Yakutat		141	45	-	25	211
TOTAL		1021	619	28	203	1871
% OF TOTAL		55%	33%	1%	11%	100%
Pelican		19	-	1	1	21

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS

FY 87

COURT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Angoon		-	5	-	-	5
Craig		391	346	-	45	782
Haines		37	88	-	-	125
Hoonah		156	-	-	6	162
Kake		81	24	-	10	115
Skagway		4	111	-	40	155
Yakutat		-	45	-	-	45
TOTAL		682	619	1	106	1408
% OF TOTAL		48%	44%	1%	7%	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

Pelican		13	-	1	5	19

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT FILINGS

FY 87

COURT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Gambell		-	-	-	-	-
Kiana		6	-	-	-	6
Noorvik		-	-	-	-	-
Pt. Hope		10	-	-	2	12
Savoonga		100	1	-	-	101
Selawik		-	-	-	-	-
Shungnak		6	-	-	-	6
Unalakleet		147	-	-	13	160
TOTAL		274	1	-	35	310
% OF TOTAL		88%	.3%	-	11.3%	100%
Ambler		5	-	-	20	25

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS

FY 87

COURT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Gambell		-	-	-	-	
Kiana		-	-	-	-	
Noorvik		-	-	-	-	
Pt. Hope		6	-	-	-	6
Savoonga		101	1	-	-	102
Selawik						
Shungnak		2	-	1	1	4
Unalakleet		160	-	-	22	182
TOTAL		271	1	1	32	305
% OF TOTAL		89%	.3%	.3%	10%	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

Ambler		2	-	-	9	11

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT FILINGS

FY 87

COURT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Cold Bay		-	-	-	-	-
Naknek		292	66	-	72	430
Sand Point		117	4	1	23	145
Seldovia		27	12	-	1	40
St. Paul Island		53	-	3	8	64
Whittier		5	2	-	8	15
TOTAL		494	84	4	112	694
% OF TOTAL		71%	12%	1%	16%	100%

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS

FY 87

COURT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Cold Bay		-	-	-	-	-
Naknek		266	66	-	42	374
Sand Point		115	4	-	13	132
Seldovia		25	12	-	1	38
St. Paul Island		68	-	-	4	72
Whittier		7	2	-	4	13
TOTAL		481	84	-	64	629
% OF TOTAL		77%	13%	-	10%	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT FILINGS

FY 87

COURT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Aniak		94	-	1	43	138
Delta Junction		76	400	6	98	580
Emmonak		164	-	-	9	173
Ft. Yukon		-	-	-	-	-
Galena		93	3	12	55	163
Healy		75	677	3	32	787
Scammon Bay		89	-	-	26	115
McGrath		25	-	3	31	59
Mekoryuk		-	-	-	-	-
Mt. Village		-	-	-	-	-
Nenana		113	659	-	70	842
Quinhagak		42	-	1	15	58
St. Mary		104	4	-	78	186
Tanana		-	1	-	-	1
TOTAL		875	1744	26	457	3102
% OF TOTAL		28%	56%	1%	15%	100%

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS

FY 87

COURT		MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Aniak		109	-	-	14	123
Delta Junction		87	400	-	69	556
Emmonak		-	-	-	-	-
Ft. Yukon		-	-	-	-	-
Galena		101	3	12	43	159
Healy		59	677	3	22	761
Scammon Bay		81	-	-	22	103
McGrath		22	-	3	29	54
Mekoryuk		-	-	-	-	-
Mt. Village		-	-	-	-	-
Nenana		62	659	-	4	725
Quinhagak		40	-	-	-	40
St. Mary		109	4	-	129	242
Tanana		-	1	-	-	1
TOTAL		670	1744	18	332	2764
% OF TOTAL		24%	63%	1%	12%	100%